

The New

Grizzly

Vol.1 No.1 July 2006

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Official Newsletter of the California National Guard

Remember

The United States of America is acknowledged as the greatest power on this earth. Our military, industry strength, and democratic freedoms are equaled by no other nation. However, this has not come without a cost. Our short 230 year history is full of stories of accomplishments and sacrifices. From the landing at Plymouth Rock to the war against terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq, the United States has defended its way of life against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

Like so many times before, Americans from all walks of life are answering their nation’s call to step forward, bear arms, and defend not only our way of life, but our very soil. During each conflict someone has lost a husband, a wife, a brother, a sister or a friend, someone whose special and unique contribution to mankind will never again be felt. These people gave their all, making the ultimate sacrifice with their life – to make and keep this country the repository of freedom and democracy that you and I enjoy today, and hopefully for generations to come.

The California National Guard has deployed over 20,000 Soldiers and Airmen since September 11, 2001. We have seen our troops off with heavy hearts, and prayed for their safe return. Upon their return, we have cried tears of joy and celebrated our answered prayers. Unfortunately, not all our soldiers have returned. On this Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Veterans’ Day and every day, I ask that you remember them. They are our sons,

daughters, husbands, wives, sisters, brothers, our heroes. Without their dedication to country, devotion to duty, and unyielding faith in America, you would not enjoy the freedoms you do today. It is for these great Americans and national heroes that we celebrate Memorial Day – a tribute to all those who have gone before us and given their all, their very lives, in the name of democracy and freedom.



Maj. Gen. William H. Wade II

Freedom is not Free
by Kelly Strong

I watched the flag pass by one day,
It fluttered in the breeze;
A young Marine saluted it,
And then he stood at ease.

I looked at him in uniform,
So young, so tall, so proud;
With hair cut square and eyes alert,
He’d stand out in any crowd.
I thought... how many men like
him had fallen through the years?

How many died on foreign soil?
How many mothers’ tears?

How many pilots’ planes shot
down
How many died at sea
How many foxholes were soldiers’
graves

No, Freedom is not Free.

I heard the sound of Taps one
night, When everything was still;
I listened to the bugler play, And
felt a sudden chill;

I wondered just how many times
That Taps had meant “Amen”
When a flag had draped a coffin
Of a brother or a friend;

I thought of all the children,
Of the mothers and the wives,
Of fathers, sons and husbands.
With interrupted lives.

I thought about a graveyard
At the bottom of the sea,
Of unmarked graves in Arlington.

No, Freedom is not Free

Senior Enlisted Advisor

Embracing Change

Transformation, Transition, Reset, Total Force, and Joint Force, these are just some of the “Buzz words” we use nowadays to describe how our National Guard is developing for the future. Our citizen Soldiers and Airmen have seen the highest optempo in our history over the last six years. We have been utilized to the maximum of our availability and for every contingency that has come along. But the most relevant piece is that through all of it we have endured, and our Soldiers and Airmen have done it together. We are truly becoming a joint force.

The experience our young Soldiers and Airmen have gained from this will prove immeasurably important in the development of our enlisted leadership in the years to come. We can no longer train as we did in the past, our preparations must be deliberate and focused. The enemy we engage today is a fanatic one and has no remorse when it comes to killing and maiming. It is our responsibility to develop the best leaders we have to guide our forces for the years to come.

We have welcomed home many of our deployed Soldiers and Airmen over the last year. These combat veterans bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. In order to develop our enlisted corps for the future, we must capitalize on this knowledge and make these veterans mentors and trainers. We cannot afford to let the “pool” of experienced enlisted leaders be depleted. The days of spending 30 years in the Guard are ending, we need to have a younger, better equipped and more agile force for the future. I ask all of you to reassess your priorities and ask what is the best for the California National Guard. Our Enlisted Leaders of the future won’t look like us, but they will be a product of our development, and they need our guidance to take the right path for future success.



Command Chief Master Sgt. Henry V. Fernandez

Grizzly

Newsletter

Vol 1. No. 1 July 2006
The Official Newsletter of the
California National Guard

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The New Grizzly

The battlefield has evolved significantly throughout the years. Today, Soldiers, Airmen and Marines, along with coalition forces, work side by side to accomplish missions. The military has recognized that by working jointly we can leverage expertise, equipment and personnel, becoming a more efficient and effective force.

Joint Force Headquarters (JFHQ), formerly The Office of the Adjutant General (OTAG), has changed to reflect the current needs of our Nation and State. Each JFHQ directorate is moving toward a more “purple” mentality: bridging the gap between Army (green) and Air Force (blue). The impact of this transformation might at first appear transparent to our Soldiers and Airmen, but the outcome will affect every member of the California National Guard

The Public Affairs Office recognizes the need to bring up to date and informative articles to our troops. The Grizzly Magazine, now Grizzly Newspaper, will be produced monthly to capture training events as they happen; pass on guidance from the leadership; and introduce changes in policy, benefits and missions. Additionally, every month we will re-introduce you to some of the directorates within JFHQ and highlight the work that is being done for our Soldiers and Airmen.

If you have a story or event, that you would like featured in the Grizzly, you now have two options. You can submit an article as a feature story or you can send a 'blurb' for 'At a Glance.' Follow these simple guidelines:
Pictures - must tell a story, avoid posed or 'family portrait' style and be highest resolution possible.

For 'At a Glance' write five to six sentences that states the why, what, when, who and where.

Remember to include photographer credit and identify personnel in picture - Rank and CORRECT SPELLING of names.

Email story submissions and/or comments to:
mirtha.villarreal@us.army.mil

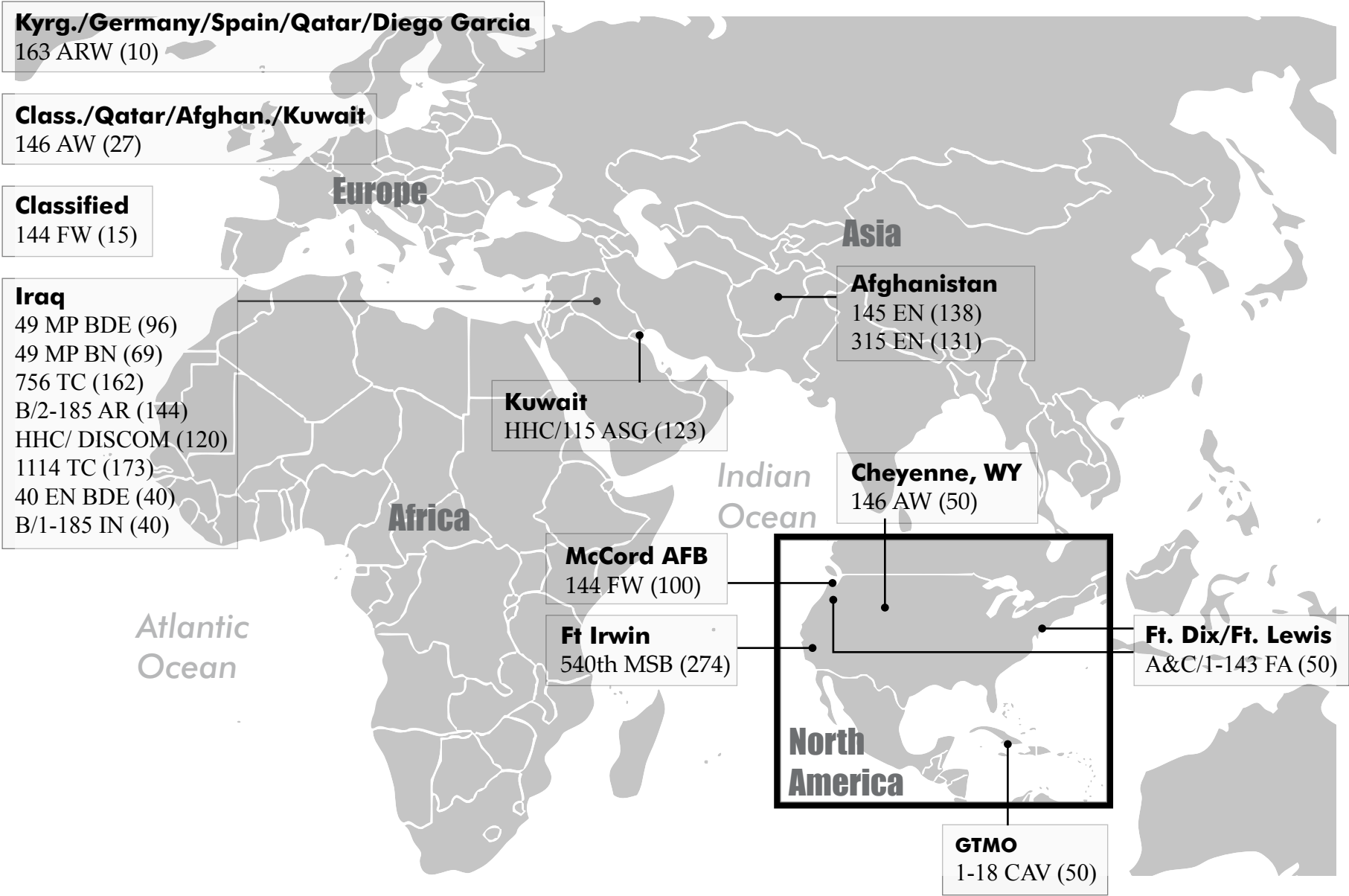
July Edition

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Where We Are

The California National Guard as of May 2006



Governor Salutes Our Troops

By Maj. Jon R. Siepmann

Passing through the hallway surrounding his Capitol office, it was hard to miss the many likenesses of the globally recognizable actor turned elected official, who now holds the title of Commander in Chief.

That title, and Governor Schwarzenegger's role as the civilian leader of the California National Guard, brought me to the Capitol for a unique opportunity to interview a figure I'd only previously been acquainted with through press events and his films.

The initial topic of the interview was Veterans Education Opportunities Partnership. A new effort to increase awareness of higher education benefits available to servicemembers in California. The effort began with a roundtable the Governor had kicked off earlier in the day with various military leaders and educators from throughout the state. The partnership would, according to the event's organizers, "create a model for veteran education by developing an academic outreach, admission, and enrollment plan that targets and assists veterans exiting military service."

Documents presented at the meeting indicated that although current California law allows state colleges to give "priority consideration to veterans of the armed forces of the United States," that provision is not being fully employed to help veterans. They also pointed out that many eligible California veterans do not take advantage of valuable G.I. Bill education benefits that they are also entitled to.

After presenting opening remarks Governor Schwarzenegger came in for the interview and offered a handshake and an opportunity to snap a few grip and grin photos. Before I got to any of my prepared questions he began talking about a speech he'd recently given at Fort Irwin to a mixture of active duty personnel and California Guardsmen who were stationed there to support training rotations.

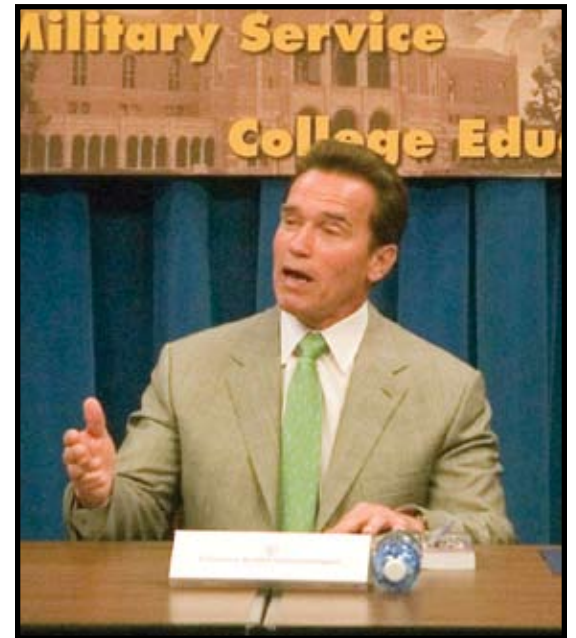
He told me that his speech there had focused on service members; what their service meant to him as an immigrant, and how much he appreciated the efforts of the military. He told them that if not for the military's defense of the nation "I wouldn't ever have had even the dream to come over here to America, because it wouldn't be the America we know today." "I have to always remind people," he said, "what makes it all possible is that there is someone there that is always fighting for us..."

He then brought the topic of conversation back to the earlier veteran's education event, speaking of supporting those who had sacrificed for their nation, and stressing the importance of getting them the benefits to which they are entitled. "That was the message of our meeting over there... How do we reach the other 50% of veterans who have not taken advantage of the Montgomery G.I. benefits, and how do we make sure they understand that there is money out there that will pay for their education."

The Governor also spoke of the economic opportunity associated with having both military experience and a degree. "Military background is respected, since everyone respects discipline, toughness and leadership. Now you add a college degree... with that combination it can really move you up," he said.

I asked him about support to the families of Guardsmen and what was being done for them. "I have spent enough time on military bases and with military personnel... so many refer to their families and what is going on at home, (they say) 'I feel good today because I talked to my wife yesterday and found out what is going on at home'," he said. Knowing this, Governor Schwarzenegger and the First Lady, Maria Shriver, have found a way to help by starting a program to give away free phone cards to service members.

He went on to talk about the California Military Families Relief Fund and its importance given the potential shortfalls between military and civilian pay during deployment, "They leave a job where they make 70,000 a year, they calculate that they can afford this house, but now they don't get this much... We have to make sure there is someone there to help the families. Those are the kind of things we have to think about."



At the time of the interview there were nearly 3,000 California Guardsmen serving overseas. He and the First Lady had recently attended a homecoming ceremony for the 1st Battalion 184th Infantry, who saw a great deal of combat in Iraq. I asked him what it was like to welcome them home. "They know the Governor came to greet them, the 'Terminator' came, (and) the body-building champ came... to some they could care less about me being Governor, which I totally understand because they've always known me as the guy who is pumped up, and the guy in the action movies... I stand there and talk to them and thank them... to be part of that celebration and shake hands and take pictures with them and sign autographs and meet (the) families encouraging them, it was incredible," he said.

I ended the interview by asking if there was any message he would like to send to Guardsmen and their families. He responded, "Each one of us, in some point of our lives, needs to do something for the community... to give something back," he continued, "Many times they say politics is the ultimate public service, but I think (being in the) the armed services is performing the ultimate public service. My wife and I think the world of (service members) and there hasn't been a day when we were in church and not prayed for them. We thought about them and their families and how much we appreciate the families support. That's why when you celebrate heroes you have to celebrate the families."



Making History



Colonel Mary J. Kight was promoted to Brigadier General on April 3, 2006, a great accomplishment for any a servicemember. Brig. Gen. Kight's accomplishments do not end there, she has been appointed the Assistant Adjutant General, the first female to hold this position in the history of the California National Guard.

As the Assistant Adjutant General, she is second in command of more than 20,000 Soldiers and Airmen. Those Soldiers/Airmen must be ever ready to mobilize for war and respond national and state

emergencies. The responsibility of mission success and readiness while insuring Soldier/Airmen care can be daunting, but Brig. Gen. Kight is ready to face that challenge head on.

Brig. Gen. Kight is a graduate of the Air War College and has over 30 years of military service. With a resume that includes command of: the Aircraft Generation Squadron for the 144th Fighter Wing, 144th Mission Support Group, and the 201st Mission Support Detachment, it is easy to see why she was selected as the Assistant Adjutant General.

Brig. Gen. Kight is recognized as a leader not only by those that have served under her command, but by her peers. While she is a role model for all to emulate, for many female Soldiers and Airmen she has broken the glass ceiling and set a new goal to attain.

She has distinguished herself by her accomplishments, and thus has been placed in a position in which her abilities will benefit the entire California National Guard, its Soldiers and Airmen.

Brig. Gen. Kight, you have served in numerous command positions, yet on the Army side many are not familiar with you and what you bring to the table – Can you tell us a little about your management style and/or command philosophy?

My management style is a combination of various techniques and philosophies; I make every effort to understand the mission at hand and the end state. That investment in time enhances meaningful dialogue with those involved and allows me to ask the appropriate questions. In addition, I can better advocate for the good of the mission along with the welfare of our Soldiers and Airmen. It is important that I support those leaders with the resources necessary for their safety and success.

You enlisted in the military in 1974 and the National Guard in 1981. How has the National Guard changed/shifted during that time?

There is no doubt that the National Guard has changed since I joined in 1981. However, I must say that my current perspective on this subject is evolving at a pretty fast rate because of the knowledge that I am gaining from Soldiers regarding the evolution of The Army National Guard. However, to answer your question, I would tell you the obvious paradigm change is the support that the National Guard provides to our active duty brethren. Although the deployments continue, I know our leadership is making every effort to provide some predictability when developing a rotation schedule for those deployments. The deployments positively influenced the active component's perception of our level of expertise as well as our reliability. That expertise is also noted within our state. Because training serves as our primary mission for the National Guard, we provide a solid training platform once again for our active duty members. What better place to get hands-on training than the National Guard. In addition, those capabilities were available for various emergency responses throughout the state. Besides our performance level, the National Guard's relationship with the great employers that support our troops is growing stronger. Along those lines, the family support programs, our support of those programs and inclusion of the family into our every day mission have increased over time because we need our families.

As the newly appointed Assistant Adjutant General for the California National Guard, what do you see as the California National Guard's most significant challenge?

Our most significant challenge for the California Military Department is communicating our capabilities to members of our communities. While we do have a federal mission, we make every effort to partner with our local communities, whether that means participating in local exercises, providing input for planning purposes or responding to state emergencies. In addition to effective communication with our community members, the California Military Department is making efforts to review current day-to-day operational processes.

One of our biggest challenges which effect state and federal requirements centers on our efforts to recruit, train, and retain our personnel. We use the tools available for recruiting and advocate for incentives to support recruiting and retention, such as tuition benefits. For training purposes we make every effort to ensure that we have the required amount of modern equipment, not only for training, but an adequate amount to support any state mission. Lastly, supervisors at every level respond to the overall needs of our Soldiers and Airmen which positively influences our retention level. For all the efforts expended towards recruiting, training and retaining our troops we focus on making sure the people have the tools to accomplish the mission.

How do you see your role as the A-TAG in helping meet these challenges?

I will assist the Adjutant General to align the California Military Department with the Governor's strategic plan as well as focus on those goals set by the National Guard. During that process I will make every effort to complement the efforts of the leaders within the Joint Force Headquarters in building an organization that provides positive, consistent and reliable support to our lifeline; which is our field units, our community and our families.

As a female in a male dominated profession, and now as an Air Force Officer in an Army prominent organization – you have not only been successful, but have distinguished yourself through your accomplishments. What advice would you give young Soldiers and Airmen coming up through the ranks?

I would advise young Soldiers and Airmen to accept the fact that we are all human beings and sometimes for whatever the reason we make mistakes. Learn from your mistakes. Don't run and hide, and always do the right thing.



Joint Operations Center

Everyday Business

The Joint Operations Center (JOC) provides staff support, enabling the Adjutant General to command the State Military Forces and direct the California Military Department in organizing, resourcing, and training Joint Forces with unique capabilities serving the community, state, and nation.

The JOC is open 24/7 to manage operations in support of the Adjutant General to deter, prevent, defeat, and mitigate threats and aggression aimed at the state and Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) partners when so ordered by the Governor or the President.

The Governor's Office of Emergency Services coordinates overall state agency response to major disasters in support of local government. Due to the specialized capability and expertise, the California National Guard is often asked to respond and assist in emergency response activities. This effort is coordinated through the JOC.

The federal mission is to maintain properly trained and equipped units available for prompt mobilization for war, national emergency or as otherwise needed. The state mission is to protect the public safety of the citizens of California by providing Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) during natural disasters and other emergencies.

Since Jan 06 the JOC has coordinated and managed operations including but not limited to northern California flood support, southern California wildfire support, search and rescue missions, and Civil Support missions.



Government Affairs

Office of Governmental Affairs

Mission: The Office of Governmental Affairs serves as the Military Department's liaison with the Governor's office, the State Legislature and our Congressional Representatives as well as other local, state and federal governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations. A primary function of Governmental Affairs is to identify the legislative needs of the Military Department and the Soldiers and Airmen of the California National Guard and attain legislative support for those needs from our elected officials. Governmental Affairs monitors and reports on state and federal legislation that impact the Military Department and the California National Guard, as well as provides technical information for legislative committees and staff and provides testimony at Senate and Assembly committee hearings. Governmental Affairs also manages and responds to legislative and Congressional inquiries received from elected officials' constituents, as well as works special projects, as requested from our elected officials and other state agencies.

Current Bills

As 2006's state legislative cycle approaches its midpoint, Governmental Affairs continues to monitor and report on over 45 bills relevant to the Military Department and/or California National Guard. Our State Legislative Team continues to coordinate with the Governor's legislative staff, provide testimony at bill hearings, perform bill analysis and respond to requests for information from the Legislature and Committee staff. Below are three bills currently pending in the Legislature.

AB 1923 (Nation)

This bill would prohibit any University of California, California State University, or California Community College from charging tuition or fees to qualified members of the California National Guard (as defined.) (These provisions would only apply to UCs if the Regents pass a resolution.)

AB 1936 (DeVore)

This bill would provide an exemption (of up to \$200) to active members of the California National Guard from payment of one (1) vehicle registration fee under the Vehicle License Fee Law and would also allow DMV to create a specialized license plate specifically for active California National Guard members.

AB 2085 (Parra)

This bill would change one of the eligibility requirements for the CA Military Family Relief Fund, requiring the member's salary to only have decreased by 10% or more (instead of 30%) in order to be eligible to receive a cash grant.

International Affairs Office

The Mission of the Office of International Affairs is to provide the Adjutant General and Deputy Adjutant General, Joint Staff with staff advice and policy recommendations on international initiatives for the California National Guard. This includes the National Security Strategy and National Military Strategy aspects of international relations activities conducted by the California National Guard.

The Office of International Affairs manages the State Partnership Program (SPP) with Ukraine. The SPP deploys California National Guard teams to Ukraine and brings Ukrainians to the United States for information sharing to assist Armed Forces of Ukraine in re-structuring, modernizing its forces, and strengthening principles of democracy and free market economies. Exchanges include information about the

processes underpinning US military structures that result in subordination to civilian control, consensus building, methodologies for achieving objectives, and interagency coordination of civil/military issues.

As the program evolves, it is becoming a sophisticated engagement tool of US National Security Strategy which brings together civilian expertise, multi-level government agencies, NATO, non-government organizations and commercial interests to address social, economic, military and political issues such as border security, base conversion, emergency response, interagency cooperation, civil-military relations and security cooperation.

SPP activities are crafted to reinforce US foreign policy objectives and support regional stability.

From the desk of the State Psychologist

The State Psychologist's Office opened on April 16, 2005 with a contingent of two mental health professionals and lots of ambition. Major Philip Holcombe, the State Psychologist, and Major Eric Frye, the State Social Worker, have discovered that the mental health needs of the California National Guard are very similar to that of the active component; however, meeting the clinical challenges of these needs are very unique. The State Psychologist's Office is organized under the Army Division of the California National Guard.

Major Holcombe and Major Frye offer several resources for addressing the unique challenges the California National Guard faces as a result of cross-leveling and geographical dispersion. These programs and services include: peer-to-peer support training; marital enrichment seminars; mental health resourcing at the armory level; telephonic contacts for Soldiers endorsing mental health concerns on post deployment screening surveys; command consultations; fitness for duty evaluations; security clearance

evaluations; psychological testing and community resourcing.

The peer-to-peer and marital enrichment programs are particularly critical prevention resources that commanders can access directly for their units. Research indicates that peers are three times more likely to talk to each other than to either Chaplains or mental health professionals, and mental health resources can be difficult to access in-theater due to limited resources at the Soldier level. In addition, people who go through the peer-to-peer training are more likely to seek mental health treatment themselves when needed. Peer-to-peer training has been utilized in the civilian sector for years by those involved in law enforcement, fire suppression and emergency services, and other professions that experience high levels of stress in their jobs. The training has proved to be a key element in providing a critical and immediate support channel for Soldiers encountering combat stress in theater.

The State Psychologist's Office works closely with the California National

Guard's Family Readiness Program under the direction of Steve Reid, and also with the State Chaplain's Office. These directorates provide a unique conduit for the State Psychologist's Office to receive Soldier and family inquiries relative to mental health programming. The Family Readiness Program services can be accessed at www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies

The key to success in mental health programming is the utilization of the services. Individual commanders need to be aware of the resources and make them available for their troops. With some 15,000 or more troops to service in California, the State Psychologist's Office has developed several clinical partnerships with Triwest, the Veteran's Administration and Vet Centers to assist in coordinating and delivering both unit level and offsite mental health services for Soldiers and their families. In most cases, short and long term mental health services can be arranged close to the Soldier's residence anywhere in the state.

The California National Guard is facing a multi-theater deployment

climate like no other in recent memory. A mentally ready military force is essential to operational readiness and deployment fitness. The State Psychologist's Office stands ready to deliver on its mission of mental health promotion and prevention. Both Major Holcombe and Major Frye can be reached via the global e-mail system at Philip.Holcombe@us.army.mil and Eric.J.Frye@us.army.mil and also via a public e-mail link established by the State Chaplain and the Joint Staff at CombatStressControl@ca.ngb.army.mil.



Chaplain

The California Army National Guard Chaplaincy

In the State of California we currently have a total of 50 ordained ministers serving as National Guard Military Chaplains. They serve as Commissioned Officers in the Army and Air National Guard as well as the California State Defense Force. The call to serve as a military Chaplain is a unique call to military service. All Chaplains meet the same educational, age and physical requirements that are required of Chaplains serving on active duty in the various services. The only difference is that the National Guard Chaplains are also civilian Soldiers, meaning that they also have full-time civilian jobs plus their military obligation.

Historically, California National Guard Chaplains have risen to the call to serve and meet the needs of their country and state. The dual responsibility is a real indication of their commitment and sense of service. Chaplains not only meet the spiritual and religious needs of soldiers and their family, but also serve to provide Commanders guidance with moral and ethical issues, morale, and Soldier and family well-being.

Chaplains serve in the following areas: Providing ministry to the Living; Providing ministry to the Dying and Wounded; Providing Honor to the Dead

The duties of a National Guard Chaplain are varied and opportunities to serve are plentiful. Commitment and dedication are words that describe the attributes of those Chaplains that currently serve the Great State of California and the United States of America. Many of our Chaplains have served in a deployed status in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Middle East and Europe to support our troops in the Global War on Terrorism. Also, many of our Chaplains have most recently served in support of Hurricane Katrina and Rita plus duty here in the State of California.



The Chaplain Corps is representative of the diverse religious beliefs and denominations that make up our country. Yet, the one common thread that links all Chaplains together is their dedication and sworn loyalty to our great country. Religious freedoms are shared, and mutual esteem and respect are part of the culture. Serving God, Country and fellow military members is central to the call. Ministry in uniform provides a very meaningful sense of service, and certainly a real life adventure. Ministry in uniform is not for the timid at heart. It takes a special individual to serve God and Country in a military uniform. The Chaplain Corps is always looking for qualified individuals to serve. If you have an interest or desire to serve, think about joining the National Guard Chaplaincy.

May God Bless,

CH (COL) Bob Johnson
JFHQ State Chaplain
CAARNG

Interoperability

By Sgt. Matt Jackson

Officers from the Los Angeles Police Department trained with Soldiers from the 670th Military Police Company during an interoperability crowd control exercise on May 4th.

Drawing upon lessons learned from civil disturbances as recent as Hurricane Katrina and as far back as the 1965 Watts riots in Southern California, the officers shared with the Guardsmen their knowledge of crowd control and movement; squad tactics; baton movements, protection and rescue of fallen officers and other tactics and techniques that can be employed during times of civil unrest.

"We're building communications and collaborating between agencies," said Brig. Gen. James P. Combs, Commanding General of the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base. "The California Army National Guard is fulfilling part of our homeland security responsibilities by ensuring that we will be ready for any riot control issues we may need to deal with."

"This is a collaboration between allied public safety organizations to better integrate local agencies with the California Army National Guard under the Master Mutual Aid plan for California," said Deputy Chief of Police Michael R. Hillmann, commanding officer of the LAPD Special Operations Bureau. "Local law enforcement will deal with their pockets

of responsibility, but there may be times when we need to call on additional resources before the situation gets out of control."

"The Guard can be activated for state duty," said C. Edward Mahaffey, a police officer with the LAPD Metropolitan Division and one of the instructors for the Soldiers. "We're doing this training to be prepared in the event we need to work together."

Many of the concepts and techniques taught were already familiar to the Soldiers. "We got a little of this training in Military Police school, but not this in depth," said PV2 Chequita Mahabier, a military policeman with the San Diego based company. "They showed us once and that was it. Here we have two days of training. It's useful to know the LAPD tactics."

"We use cruisers, you use HMMW-Vs, but the tactics are the same," said Mahaffey. "The Guard has different vehicles and weapons, but they can adapt these techniques."

In exchange for their time and expertise, the LAPD has been allowed to use the Military



Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) site at the Los Alamitos base for their own training purposes.

"Exercises like this benefit the National Guard by giving them perspective on what we do, they benefit the LAPD by providing us with a location for our own training, and they benefit the local community by helping to ensure both organizations are prepared to work together in the event of unusual occurrences," said Mahaffey.

Tradewinds 2006

By 1st Lt. Alan Nydegger and 1st. Lt. John Allen

During mid-March until mid-April 2006, the small Caribbean country of Jamaica was the host of a multi-national training exercise called Tradewinds. The exercise, led by the U.S. Marine Corps, has been held annually for the last seven years, with the primary intent of training West Indian countries in riot control, security, and anti-terrorism techniques for the upcoming World Cricket Championship which will be held in many of the West Indian countries in 2007. The California Army National Guard provided G Company 140th AVN REG to help support the exercise with passenger and cargo movement. For the Chinook unit, out of Stockton, this annual training exercise was unlike any the unit has previously conducted. The planning for this exercise started five months prior to the scheduled deployment in early March. On March 9th, three aircraft with 16 personnel self-deployed across the United States, down through the Bahamian chain, and into Kingston, the capital city of Jamaica. The flight took a total of 29 hours over the course of six days.

The Stockton Army Aviation Support Facility was instrumental in providing the needed support for the deployment. Eight semi-trucks picked up G Company's unit equipment and transported it to Port Canaveral, FL where it was then loaded on to a barge. OCONUS training events are valuable in so many different ways. The demands of working with customs, foreign embassies, ports-of-call, and allied Soldiers prepare California Soldiers for future operations in other theaters. Overseas exercises stretch a unit's capability and compel an organization to rise to a higher level.

The Chinooks provided air support by transporting supplies, ammunition, and Soldiers to various training sites throughout the Jamaican area of operation. The scheme of maneuver for the training exercise was to have the 400 ground



Soldiers rotate between four different training locations. It was routine for the aircrews to transport all 400 Soldiers to and from these training sites in one day. The maintenance support from G company had a tall task, but provided excellent support and always provided a mission capable aircraft for the missions.

In addition to the excellent deployment and redeployment training, this exercise provided the unit the opportunity to interact with countless countries and organizations. An example was the process of approval of flight missions. Operation

personnel would receive mission requests from the Marine G3, the British Royal Marines, and the U.S. Army. Once received, a flight plan had to be delivered to the JDF Aviation Operations for approval. The JDF has a small aviation branch with approximately eight helicopters and a couple of small fixed-wing assets. Their helicopters are used for everything from firefighting to drug interdiction, and are virtually the only helicopters in the country. In some of the unsafe areas of the country, mostly around Kingston, the JDF helicopters have been shot at and are not very popular. For this reason, the JDF was initially rather restrictive to where the Army helicopters could fly. If the route of flight was approved by the JDF, the mission could then be completed. This process was cumbersome at first, but after building a relationship and trust with the JDF it became a little more than a mere formality.

While there were many long days for unit personnel, there was also still time for MWR activities, eating the local cuisine and interacting with the local Jamaicans. Some Soldiers chose to snorkel, while others enjoyed collecting a little sun by the pool or swimming in the clear blue water.

On April 11th, the three CH-47s departed Jamaica for the long flight back to Stockton. The five day trip home included stops in the Bahamas, Tampa, Little Rock, and Albuquerque.

OCIP

By Capt. Mirtha Villarreal

The United States is a nation at war. The military needs leaders that have the determination and conviction to take charge under difficult situations. The 223rd Regiment Officer Candidate School has the charge of developing those leaders.

On March 24, 2006, 53 individuals arrived at Camp San Luis Obispo with the hope of being admitted into the Officer Candidate School. The next three days tested them both physically and mentally through OCIP (Officer Candidates Indoctrination Program).

"The California National Guard is the only state right now that has an Officer Candidate Indoctrination Program (OCIP). OCIP was born with the intent to test the intestinal fortitude and commitment of the Potential Officer Candidate," states Major Jeff Nichols, OCS Commander. "We are looking for long term commitment, not just getting through the weekend. We want commitment to the Army and their soldiers. If someone is going to quit, better to quit now, and not when soldiers are depending on them."

So... what is OCIP? It is 72 hours of training in which teamwork, team cohesiveness and esprit de corps are instilled. Potential Officer Candidates are placed in a series of scenarios that evaluate their leadership capabilities. The scenarios range

from building hasty fortified fighting positions to delivering logistical supplies to moving under enemy fire to being able to write comprehensibly with minimal rest. Through out the weekend the OCS cadre, Teach Access and Counsel (TACs), coach and push each individual to attain their full potential. "OCIP is about the individual that goes into the program. Regardless of the tasks given to them, it's not about what they can prove to us (TACs), it's about what they can prove to themselves. They are the ones that will stand in front of a platoon and give commands. They must possess the confidence to be effective." Capt. Jaime Quintanilla, TAC.

The training is difficult but realistic and at some point most Potential Officer Candidates contemplate quitting. They question their own motivation and capabilities, but they continue to strive to complete the program. Upon completion of OCIP, they are officially admitted into OCS; Stronger for having tested themselves.

"Leaders must have the warrior ethos, there is no room for compromise, for second thoughts, soldiers' lives depend on it" LTC Gregory DeBernard, Commander, GS Battalion

For more information on attending OCS, log on to <http://www.calguard.ca.gov/ocs/>



Operation Ready Families Program

The California National Guard's Operation Ready Families Program (ORFP) understands the importance of support and accessibility for our military service members and their families. The California National Guard established the Family Assistance Network (FAN) as a resource to National Guard and other military families, especially those involved in current deployments. FAN Coordinators are available to answer questions as well as pass on essential information to families and their servicemembers who are involved in any branch of the military.

Our vision is a fully functioning family member chain of concern working with a fully supportive military chain of command to enhance the readiness and wellness of both.

We accomplish this in the following ways:

- **Information and Communication:** Operation Ready Families works as an information broker to ensure that vital information is made available to commanders, troops, and loved ones that will help them be prepared for any community, state, or federal mission that comes along. Our most important tools are our website, the State Family Readiness Handbook, and the family chain of concern that flows through every command allowing information to reach families and loved ones at all levels.
- **Volunteer Development:** Each unit is to develop a Family Readiness Group that establishes the communication chain of concern. There are many different opportunities for volunteer work within the Family Readiness Group, based on the commander's intent for Family Readiness in his/her unit.
- **Training:** We offer a variety of courses and workshops for families, troops and volunteers that enhance both readiness and wellness.
- **Family Readiness Assistance Visits:** The Operation Ready Families Program is available to come to units and help them establish or enhance their Family Readiness Program.
- **Child and Youth Programs:** Youth have issues all their own when it comes to living in a Guard family. We are developing a program where youth can meet together in their communities or regionally to get to know more about the Guard as well as to support one another in their unique situation

The FAN also hosts once a month "We Care" meetings. Operation We Care meetings are community Family Support Groups that allow families and loved ones of deployed servicemembers - regardless of branch or component - to come together to gain information on benefits and entitlements as well as support each other no matter what stage of deployment they are experiencing. Many of the sessions focus on reunification with VA Vet Center members present to talk about anything from marriage issues to combat stress.. These meetings, which are open to all branches of the service, give servicemembers and their families, friends and employers the opportunity to establish a local social support group as well as keep up to date on military news and benefits. Participants get the chance to receive the advice and support of people who know what they're going through.

For more information on meetings in your area or to find out more about the Family Assistance Network please visit our website at:

www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies and look for upcoming activities or call (800) 449-9662. You can also receive information via email by subscribing to our news service at: www.calguard.ca.gov/readyfamilies/subscribe.htm.

The mission of the Operation Ready Families Program is to assist commanders as they support their Guardmembers and their loved ones during peacetime, deployment, redeployment or any type of mission the unit supports.



Education

For many years the Civilian Education Office for the California Army National Guard has strived to inform soldiers on the benefits available to them, ranging from Federal Tuition Assistance (FTA), Montgomery G.I. Bill (MGIB), and Incentives. Soldiers from all over the state are now returning from long deployments and are going to school to further their education. Numbers are up across the board on school enrollments. Each fiscal year we are given a specific amount of funds to manage the FTA program and we are now on our second request for additional funds this year. We started the year out with \$783 thousand and as of January it has jumped to \$1.2 million through the gracious help of the National Guard Bureau. We strongly encourage everyone to continue to apply on-line www.virtualarmory.com. All requests will remain in pending status and will be, again reviewed, upon receipt of additional funds.

If you have any questions, or you are interested in finding out more on the programs we have to offer, please contact us toll free at 866-338-2863 /866-EDUC-8-ME or (916)854-3227.

Montgomery G.I. Bill Programs

We have a new team in town! The GI Bill Support Team at esc@pec.ngb.army.mil / 1-866-628-5999 is responsible for assisting all National Guard Soldiers and AGR Soldiers with their Mobilization GI Bill Chapter 1607, and Active Duty GI Bill Chapter 30. If you have not received notification by mail of your eligibility for any of these programs please contact them for guidance.

For all soldiers that were mobilized for more than 90 days, you qualify for the "Reserve Educational Assistance Program" (REAP) or Chapter 1607. Please visit www.va.gov and click on BENEFITS, under Education tab for further guidance.

*Remember your Kicker can be used with Chapter 1607.

Top-Up Eligibility

Top-Up is a program that allows GI Bill participants' to use the GI Bill to supplement the tuition and fees not covered by tuition assistance. The amount of the benefit can be equal to the difference between the total cost of a college course and the amount of Tuition Assistance that is paid by the military for the course. To be eligible for the Top-Up benefit, you must be approved for federal Tuition Assistance by a military department and be eligible for MGIB AD benefits.

<http://education.military.com/money-for-school/gi-bill/gi-bill-eligibility-details>

To be eligible you must be a GI Bill participant, still on active duty, and must have served at least two full years.

Convert Military Training into Academic Credit

The AARTS Operations Center's mission is to provide transcripts of military training and experience to soldiers and veterans of the Army, Army National Guard, and US Army Reserve. Working with the local Directorate Of Information Management (DOIM), AARTS maintains a database of over 3,500,000 soldier records. The AARTS staff fills over 2,000 requests per week. Transcript requests are processed on the work day (M-F) they are received and mailed not later than the following work day to academic institutions, soldiers, Army Education Centers, and employers around the world.

<http://aarts.army.mil/>

Hot News!!

AARTS now has a link to iPERMS, web-based access to your Official Military Personnel File (for active members of the Regular Army and drilling members of the Army National Guard and Army Reserve with AKO login and password).

Go to #14 of "Related Links and Referrals" to access this information.

Next Steps:

You have two steps to getting started on your education goals. The first is to find scholarships - it is never too early to begin looking for money for school.

The second step is to use the Military.com "School Finder" to get free information from fully accredited "military family friendly" colleges and universities that are eager to serve the education needs of military families.

Scholarships:

<http://aid.military.com/scholarship/search-for-scholarships.do>

School Finder:

<http://schools.military.com/schoolfinder/search-for-schools.do>

Readiness NCOs log on to iMARC

You can now answer your soldier's education benefits questions by using iMARC (Information Management & Reporting Center). iMARC combines data from multiple sources into one tracking system and allows you to get real time data on education and incentive processes.

You can view soldier information relating to:

- Montgomery GI Bill
- GI Bill Kicker
- Selected Reserve Incentive Program (SRIP)
- Student Loan Repayment Program (SLRP)
- Health Professional Loan Repayment (HPLR)
- Tuition Assistance
- Counseling notes
- View recent and archived policies
- Answer soldier questions
- Check status of personnel actions

Site: <https://minuteman.ngb.army.mil>

Education Team



National Guard Senior Enlisted Workshop

By Sgt. Kara M. Greene

Some of the top Army senior enlisted advisors gathered in Kuwait recently to see first hand the training and services available to Soldiers in theater including California's Command Sgt. Maj. Harry Courtney.

Twenty-five National Guard senior enlisted advisors joined deployed command sergeant majors at the first National Guard Senior Enlisted Workshop sponsored by the National Guard Bureau and Third U.S. Army command May 15-17.

The Command Sgt. Maj. toured Camp Beuhring, Camp Virginia and the theater life support area, or "gateway", the central hub for Soldiers entering and leaving theater. "This was a hands-on workshop where they can see the dangers Soldiers are seeing and dealing with every day," said coordinator Sgt. Maj. Bradley Murfitt. "They have the opportunity to impact the training that Soldiers need to have completed before deployment. They can also relate their personal experiences about what they have seen and the events that they participated in." Murfitt explained.

While the command sergeants major came to learn more about the training and deployment process in Kuwait, they left with a better understanding of how the troops live and function daily – having experienced it first hand. These senior leaders lived in tents with latrine and shower facilities down the "street." They ate in the dining facility – standing in long lines to get their three square meals a day, and they traveled from place to place in buses like all Soldiers. It was these experiences that allowed them to understand the deployment process and see improvements that camps are constantly undergoing to improve the quality of life for all servicemembers.

The quality of life in theater is constantly evolving, said Oregon's Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Moe, who has visited the theater about every six months since the war began. "Three years ago this place was the wild west. There was no reveille, no taps," Moe recalled. "I'm pleased Soldiers are offered Morale Welfare and Recreation events, fitness centers and ways to communicate with their home."

When not in meetings or viewing slideshow presentations, the attendees participated in simulated battles with insurgents in Iraq using the indoor Electronic Training System. They convoyed through the live fire ranges



and they rolled over a humvee in the Army's newest training tool: the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer (HEAT). HEAT simulates a vehicle rollover, allowing servicemembers to practice life saving techniques. It was the training events that the attendees found most valuable, seeing that their Soldiers are getting the best possible training before facing the dangers of combat, Moe said. The general consensus was that training during the final phase of mobilization has improved greatly.

"Everyday Soldiers are better prepared for the war fight in Iraq. Initially they have no idea what they are up against, but as the war goes on, the Army is coming up with better ideas for fighting this war," Courtney said.

The purpose of the conference, said the organizers, was to give the senior enlisted advisors a snapshot of Soldiers' experience in Kuwait, and with this knowledge, better prepare Soldiers for their deployment.

Preserving California's Military Heritage

By Command Sgt. Maj. (CA) Dan Sebby

The California State Military Museum: This museum, opened by Governor Pete Wilson in 1991, is the "crown jewel" of the program. Located in historic Old Sacramento, the museum is operated for the Military Department by the California State Military Museum Foundation, and is supported by the State Military Reserve's California Center for Military History (CCMH).

The museum not only tells the story of the State's Military Forces, but also chronicles the military history of the state and it's citizens from the Spanish colonial period through the current Global War on Terrorism. It houses an excellent research library that is utilized by scholars and government agencies, as well as the general public.

Other Museums:

- Camp Roberts: Operated by volunteers and retired Guardsmen, the Camp Roberts Historical Museum tells the story of Camp Roberts and is also home to the program's armored vehicle collection. Located in the camp's former Red Cross and Post Office buildings, it is a "must see" when you're at "Camp Bob", as it is affectionately called.
- Camp San Luis Obispo: The newest museum in the system is located in the visitor's center and tells the history of the "Original Home of the California National Guard". The museum, operated by the CSLO Military History Detachment of the CCMH, also has many fixed and rotary wing aircraft on display.

- Joint Forces Training Base, Los Alamitos: For those who frequent "Los Al", you know that many artifacts of the 40th Infantry Division are on display at the division's headquarters.
- Glendale: The Sons of the Revolution Library in Glendale is a partner museum and is the home of the CCMH's Naval History Unit.
- San Diego: Located in Mesa College Armory, The Regimental Museum commemorates the history of the 185th Armor Regiment, the 250th Coast Artillery Regiment and other San Diego area units.

The California Center for Military History: It's only natural that the oldest unit in the State Military Reserve would be its historical element. Formed in 1976 as the Historical Reserve, the CCMH consists of over 80 soldiers. This multi-faceted unit is the "behind the scenes" element of the program providing the Military Department with historians, restoration technicians and other specialties required to operate a successful military history program. CCMH Soldiers appear regularly on the History Channel, have written many military history books and articles and have been recruited by the Army Corps of Engineers to conduct major historical surveys.

For more information about the program, check out the museum web site, www.militarymuseum.org.

Soldier and Airman of the Year



ANG-First Sgt of the Year

Master Sergeant ROBERT E. PEREZ

Master Sergeant Perez is a member of the 163rd Air Refueling Wing. Sergeant Perez is consistently involved as a serviceman and a patriotic citizen in programs that help others and improve the community. He is a member of the 163d Top Three organization, the First Sergeant's Council, and serves as the Diamond's Council Secretary. Under his management the 163rd can expect to continue a tradition of excellence.



ANG-SRNCO of the Year

Master Sergeant FLORENCE M. CASIANO

Master Sergeant Casiano is assigned to the 163rd Air Refueling Wing. Sergeant Casiano was awarded her CCAF Associate Degree in January 2005 and her Bachelor of Science degree with California State University, Long Beach. She was promoted to the grade of Master Sergeant on 1 February 2005.



ANG-NCO of the Year

Staff Sergeant ZACHARY B. RING

Staff Sergeant Zachary Benjamin Ring is a Combat Crew Communications Journeyman assigned to the 163rd Operations Support Flight, California Air National Guard, March Air Reserve Base, California. Sergeant Ring's professional military goal is to obtain a commission and become a pilot in the California Air National Guard. He resides in Rialto near his family and friends where he enjoys flying, golf, working on classic cars, and most water sports.



ANG-Airman of the Year

Senior Airman JAMES ANDERSON

Senior Airman James Sanderson is a traditional guardsman with the 129th Security Forces Squadron. Airman Sanderson's military awards include the Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, NCO PME Graduate Ribbon, Air Force Training Ribbon, OIF Medal, the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) medal and the gold border Expeditionary medal.



ARNG-NCO of the Year

Staff Sergeant DAVID SMITH

Staff Sergeant David Smith is assigned to D Company, Regional Training Site Maintenance, where he is a 63B, Light Wheel Vehicle Mechanic. SSG Smith works full-time as an Instructor and Course writer for the RTSM at Camp Roberts. SSG Smith has received the Army Commendation Medal as well as numerous other awards. SSG Smith lives in Atascadero, Ca, along with his wife Karen.



ARNG-Soldier of the Year

Specialist FORREST KING

Specialist Forrest King is assigned to Company G, 140th Aviation Regiment, where he is a 15U, CH-47 Mechanic. SPC King works full-time as a technician at the Stockton facility. His goals are to obtain an Associates Degree in Business Law and to continue his education as an NCO. He is striving to be the best soldier, father and husband that he can be. SPC King resides in Modesto, Ca, with his wife April.



SMR-NCO of the Year

Staff Sergeant MARK MICHINI

Staff Sergeant Mark Michini is assigned to the 100th Troop Command Support Brigade in San Rafael, where he is the Senior Medical NCO. SSG Michini works full-time as Vice-President of Systems Engineer at City National Bank in the Data Operations Center. SSG Michini makes his home in Alameda, Ca, along with his wife Christina.

California Hosts its first-ever “Operation Military Kids” Event at Moffett Field

By Carolann Wunderlin

On April 29th 2006, the Adjutant General of the California National Guard, Major General William H. Wade II, kicked off the state's first-ever Operation Military Kids (OMK) Day which rounded off the Month of the Military Child with auspicious fanfare.

In a recent Armed Forces Press article about April's Month of the Military Child, Douglas Ide, a Public Affairs Officer with the Army's Community and Family Support Center stated, "Military children endure a great deal of change as a result of a parents military career." Billy Wade, in his Welcome Remarks representing California National Guard's Youth Council, and son of MG Wade II, proudly attested to that experience and demonstrated a mature and confidently staunch position of the significant value of recognizing those challenges through such programs as Operation Military Kids.

Validating his son's position, MG Wade II echoed similar sentiment in his opening remarks to the nearly 1,000 Guard and Reserve families attending Moffett Field's Operation Military Kids (OMK) Day. Like his son, spoken with notable sincerity and equal strength of advocacy, MG Wade articulated that today's National Guard and Reserve families clearly benefit from the development of these community partnerships as evidenced by the 50+ community organizations who set up carnival booths and kids activities for this inaugural event.

Stepping onto Orion Park Moffett Field, guests were greeted by a 20-foot high marquis which read: California Operation Military Kids Day and glaring non-discretely in its background were the towering silhouettes of many eye-catching events which included: the Boy Scouts "Treacher's Folley" a configuration erected with ropes and logs, hosted a climbing ladder and repelling rope. Donned with safety helmets and safety harnesses,



Carolann Wunderlin 129th RQW Family Readiness Coordinator, Mrs. Leslie Wade, Chanda Gonzales California OMK Director, MG Wade, Billy Wade, Darrin Allen National OMK Director.



Mayor Swegeles presenting MG Wade with a City Proclamation for the Month of Military Child and Operation Military Kids.

kids had the opportunity to learn a new skill and test their agility while experiencing another dimension of thrill.

Competing with this mammoth, was a 20-foot high inflatable slide and a 15-foot long inflatable train jumper. On the calmer side, puppet shows, puppet-making crafts, and a petting zoo which taught children about the proper care of animals was offered. Across the field from our well-mannered guests, was the Operation Military Kids Mobile Tech Lab which provided our youth with the opportunity to learn or enhance existing computer skills, but more importantly, it gave them on-site availability to send a message to their deployed service member. The American Legion of Santa Clara provided a pseudo-train which was driven and conducted by a dynamic duo of the local American Legion 40/8 San Tomas Voiture 365. As they conducted dozens of train rides for children around Orion Park, their enthusiasm for being there was as horn-blowing as the train itself! Matching the 40/8 Train's popularity, was the VFW Post 3792 of Santa Clara with their generous free drawing of over \$2,000 worth of cash prizes, youth bikes, and an assortment of games and toys.

Another 'piece de resistance' was the 129th Rescue Wing's "Team Hawk" (a 4-man crew with one ground personnel) who landed their HH-60 Pave Hawk Helicopter on the field shortly after opening remarks by the Mayors of Mountain View and Sunnyvale, and the Adjutant General of the California National Guard. This helicopter is used to travel to-and-from elementary and high schools to conduct drug resistance training as well as, state or combat search and rescue.

This event proved timely as many of our state's Guard and Reserve families had just received their returning deployed military member home.

*Operation: Military Kids is funded by the U.S. Army in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Cooperative States Research, Education, and Extension Services. For more about the national Operation: Military Kids program, see www.operationmilitarykids.org

Benefits & News

Army Launches College Virtual Gateway

The Army Continuing Education System recently launched its new GoArmyEd portal at <http://www.GoArmyEd.com>. The virtual gateway is a one-stop location where Soldiers can process tuition assistance and sign up for college courses 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The portal can also link Soldiers to technical support. Previously, Soldiers were required to visit an Army Education Center in order to enroll in classes and process paperwork for TA. GoArmyEd is also now the portal for EArmyU, an online academic program offering more than 145 degree and certificate programs from 28 colleges and universities.

Correction of Military Records Automated

Airmen can now initiate a Board for Correction of Military Records via the Virtual Military Personnel Flight. The new process will require Airmen to complete the Department of Defense Form 149 "Application for Correction of Military Records," attach applicable supporting documentation and mail the package to the address on the reverse side of the DD form. All requests must be received in hardcopy with the original applicant signature. For more information or assistance, call the Air Force Contact Center at (800) 616-3775, option 1, option 1, option 2; commercial (210) 565-5000; or DSN 665-5000. New Website Features Deployment Health Studies

Medical Research for Vets

New Defense Department Website that debuted April 3 featuring government-funded scientific studies of medical issues experienced by military members during deployments. The DeployMed ResearchLINK site will initially contain 1991 Gulf War-related medical research that's been compiled by government researchers. Around June, additional medical information gathered from Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom will be added. The new DeployMed ResearchLINK website is available at <http://www.deploymentlink.osd.mil/deploymed/>

Armed Forces Vacation Club (AFVC)

A leisure travel benefits program sponsored by Resort Condominiums International (RCI), a leader in vacation rental. The AFVC is a "Space Available" program that offers Department of Defense affiliated personnel the opportunity to take affordable condominium vacations at resorts around the world. The AFVC makes this possible by utilizing marketable inventory at condominium timeshare resorts. Marketable inventory consists of condominium units that resort owners do not use, which generally means off-season or short-notice travel. Thank you for your service to our country and we hope you enjoy this tremendous vacation opportunity. <http://www.afvclub.com/>

California Military Family Relief Fund

The California Military Family Relief Fund (CMFRF) was established to provide short term, financial assistance in the form of grants to California National Guard members and/or families impacted by mobilization and deployment who meet criteria listed below.

Current member of the California National Guard in good standing • Current California resident • Deployment to active duty for at least 100 consecutive days in Title 10 USC status • Member's military salary has decreased by 30 percent or more from civilian salary <http://www.calguard.ca.gov/cmfrf/>

Saving Money at the Commissary

Higher gasoline prices are causing many shoppers to make fewer trips to the commissary, but they are buying more when they do make the trip. Other ways to save money at the commissary are: (1) Clip and use coupons; (2) Bring a cooler and stock up on a variety of top-quality meats; (3) Guard and Reserve families can get together and take a van trip to their nearest installation; (4) Check out what is on sale at the commissary at the "savings aisle" under the shopping link at <http://www.commissaries.com>. DeCA is not allowed to advertise prices outside the store, but you can print out a list of items on sale in your commissary; (5) Shop online at the Exchange Catalog and Exchange Online store at <http://www.aafes.com> or the Virtual Commissary at <http://www.commissaries.com>.

Air Force Debuts New Website

Innovation communities within the Air Force now have an online forum to learn, collaborate and collect ideas relative to their daily needs. The new "Innovation and Technology Knowledge Management" site will be available April 15 via the Air Force Portal at <https://www.d.mil.af.mil/afknprod/ASPs/CoP/InovTechCoP.asp?Filter=AF-BL> and is part of the "Air Force Knowledge Now" infrastructure. Users will participate in the "Wisdom Exchange" to interact with subject matter experts. They will also have access to interactive, online training modules for Air Force action officers. <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123018372>

TRICARE Launches New Programs

TRICARE has created two demonstration projects and one pilot program to test help servicemembers and their families battle the dangerous effects of obesity, tobacco use and excessive drinking. TRICARE plans to launch weight management, tobacco cessation and alcohol programs within the coming months. These projects will involve servicemembers and their families who volunteer to participate. The demonstration projects and pilot program will span three years and the sole pilot program will cover two years from start-up. They will help identify ways to deliver the best possible benefit for TRICARE beneficiaries. For more information about the demonstration projects' launch dates, visit TRICARE's website at <http://www.tricare.osd.mil/healthychoices>

Request Military Records

The eVetRecs allows you to create a customized order form to request information from your, or your relative's, military personnel records. You may use the eVetRecs system if you are a military veteran or next of kin of a deceased, former member of the military. <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/>

Group Provides Helmet Upgrade Kits

A nonprofit group founded and organized by a U.S. Navy veteran is protecting troops on the frontlines against severe head trauma by mobilizing citizens to support deployed servicemembers. Operation Helmet has been providing Kevlar helmet upgrade kits to troops since February 2004, and has provided nearly 4,800 servicemembers with the kits. Deployed military personnel can request a free helmet upgrade kit at the group's website at <http://www.operationhelmet.org/>. The website also has a way for citizens to donate and help the nonprofit group provide kits to the troops. Funding for the kits comes from the donations.

Employment Resources

For more jobs, in addition to the sampling below, please see the website at www.calguard.ca.gov/jobs.htm

AIR ACTIVE GUARD RESERVE

21-06

NBC Team Member

3E9X1/E5

95th Civil Support Team (CST), Hayward, CA
Nationwide, Open Until Filled

22-06

NBC Team Member

3E9X1/E5

9th Civil Support Team (CST), Los Alamitos, CA
Nationwide, Open Until Filled

23-06

Medical NCO

4F071/E7

9th Civil Support Team (WMD), JFTB, Los Alamitos, CA
Nationwide, Open Until Filled

ARMY ACTIVE GUARD RESERVE

21-06

NBC Team Member

74D20/E5

95th Civil Support Team (CST), Hayward, CA
Nationwide, Open Until Filled

22-06

NBC Team Member

74D20/E5

9th Civil Support Team (CST), Los Alamitos, CA
Nationwide, Open Until Filled

23-06

Medical NCO

91W/E7

9th Civil Support Team (CST), Los Alamitos, CA
Nationwide, Open Until Filled

AIR GUARD TECHNICIAN

06-082A

Electronic Integrated Systems Mechanic
WG-12

129th Rescue Wing, Moffett FAF, CA
Nationwide, 11 April 2006

06-084A

Aircraft Mechanic (C-130)

WG-10

129th Rescue Wing, Moffett FAF, CA
Nationwide, 11 April 2006

ARMY GUARD TECHNICIAN

06-082

Aircraft Survival & Flight Equipment Repairer
WG-08

AASF, Los Alamitos, CA
Nationwide 18 April 2006

06-092

Flight Engineer (Instructor)

GS-10

AASF, Stockton, CA
Nationwide 18 April 2006

Military personnel face transitional times throughout their career. National Guard members encounter additional challenges. Education and promotions within the military might prompt a Soldier/Airmen to search for a new job in which they can better utilize their newly acquired management skills. A deployed service member might find he or she has returned to a job that no longer exists.

Soldiers and Airmen offer a diverse range of experience to potential employers. Beyond military occupational specialties, service members are leaders that can work under extremely stressful conditions. Today, thanks to the internet, finding the right job does not have to be a daunting task.

Military.com is a free web-based publication which features resume building templates and interview techniques. But possibly the best feature for the service member is the 'translator.' Military specialties/skills are translated into civilian terms which in turn help market Soldiers and Airmen to match the skills to job requirements desired by employers.

The following sites are available to help military personnel acquire a new job or start a business.

www.Hirevetsfirst/search - There are nearly 2,000 One-Stop Career Centers nationwide where employers can go to receive assistance in connecting to and recruiting veterans. One-Stop Career Centers offer a wealth of resources including specialized Local Veterans' Employment Representatives (LVERs) and Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) staff who work solely with veteran populations and can provide relevant veteran applicant referrals. Find the One-Stop Career Center near you or call 1-877-US2-JOBS for direct assistance.

www.usajobs.opm.gov - USAJOBS, created by the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, is the official job site of the Federal Government. It's your one-stop source for Federal jobs and employment information.

www.ajb.org - America's Job Bank is a component of the One-Stop Career Center network. Thousands of new jobs are posted daily by employers. Find the one that's right for you today.

www.calguard.ca.gov/jobs.htm - The California National Guard offers a website with Federal Technician, Active Guard Reserve, State Civil Service, and State Active Duty positions.

www.helmetstohardhats.org - The Helmets to Hardhats program has been designed due to the critical skills shortage in the construction industry. It seeks to recruit US military personnel who are entering back into the civilian life into construction jobs.

www.proudtoserveagain.com - Troops to teachers is a U.S. Department of Education and Department of Defense program that helps eligible military personnel begin a new career as teachers in public schools where their skills, knowledge and experience are most needed.

In addition to those listed, www.jobcentral.com is another excellent online recruitment resource with an entire section of its site specifically geared towards both Veterans seeking employment and employers considering or seeking Veterans.

State Active Duty Jobs:

2005-67 (Military Instructor) SAD E-5

Position located in Oakland CA
Oakland Military Institute - Expires 30 June 2006

(2005-54) Squad Leader (SAD E5C8*)

Position located at Camp San Luis Obispo with the Grizzly Youth Academy. This is an open announcement, expiring 30 June 2006. Periodic Merit Selection Board processing occurs throughout the year in 45-60 day increments.

* Appointment pay is capped at E-5 with 8 years of service.

(2005-55) Platoon Sergeant (SAD E6C14*)

Position located at Camp San Luis Obispo with the Grizzly Youth Academy. This is an open announcement, expiring 30 June 2006. Periodic Merit Selection Board processing occurs throughout the year in 45-60 day increments.

* Appointment pay is capped at E-6 with 14 years of service.

NATIONAL GUARD

RECRUITING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The Guard Recruiting Assistance Program (G-RAP) is a contracted program designed for individuals who voluntarily apply online at www.GuardRecruitingAssistant.com to become eligible to serve as a part time Recruiter Assistant (RA). The RA applicant will be verified and hired by a contractor, not the ARNG. Each RA will cultivate quality potential Soldiers (PS) from within their individual sphere(s) of influence. Once a potential Soldier is identified and pre-qualified, the RA will facilitate a meeting engagement with their local Recruiting and Retention NCO (RRNCO). The triad of RRNCO, RA, and potential Soldier will then work closely together to process the potential Soldier and move them towards accession. Upon enlistment, the RA will receive an initial payment of **\$1,000**, with a second **\$1,000** payment upon successful shipment to Initial Entry Training (IET). *Note: exact payment timelines vary depending upon prior service / non-prior status and availability of training seats.*



Eligibility

Can an Army Soldier be a RA?

No they cannot due to the fact that they are already a federal employee and the dual compensation clause prevents them from performing two federal tasks for compensation at the same time.

Can I be an AGR Soldier and do this?

No, G-RAP is not currently available to AGR Soldiers. Future similar programs such as Every Soldier a Recruiter (ESAR) are being considered for AGR participation.

Are AGR, ADSW, MIL TECH or immediate family members of the Full Time Recruiting Retention Force (FTRRF) eligible to participate in G-RAP?

No, AGR, ADSW, MIL TECH and immediate family members of FTRRF are not currently authorized to participate in G-RAP. Part of the online application requires the applicant to certify they are not in any of the above mentioned positions. Part of the evaluation of the applicant will be to determine the validity of this disclaimer.

If I am an M-day Guard Member as well as an educator, can I participate in G-RAP?

Yes, you can participate with a written approval from your TAG or RRC.

Can I perform the duties of the RA during drill weekend?

No, any Soldier on Drill status, AT Status or ADSW *cannot* perform the duties of an RA. **Your RA responsibilities must be met during your personal Citizen Time, never on Soldier Time.**

How do I sign up?

If you're interested in becoming a Guard Recruiting Assistant, apply online at www.guardrecruitingassistat.com or www.calguard.ca.gov/recruiting or call Docupak 1 (888) 291-6004

Frequently Asked Questions:

Who do I work for? Am I an ADSW or AGR person?

You are an independent contractor for Docupak and are not acting in a military capacity.

Who do I take direction from, the RRNCO or Docupak?

As an independent contractor, directives will be given by Docupak. Docupak will help guide you and provide the support you will need to be successful. Any questions that arise should be directed to Docupak to grap@docupak.com or 1 (888) 291-6004.

If I am a member of the Guard or Reserve, do I use the unit to answer questions or do I go to Docupak?

Docupak is your first contact for questions. If additional information is needed outside of Docupak, they will help facilitate securing the necessary information for you. Call toll free 1 (888) 291-6004.

Can I do RA work while at drill or Annual Training?

No, your actions in a G-RAP capacity are independent from your role as a member of the Guard.

Can I wear my uniform while I am doing RA work?

No, your civilian contractor provides you with appropriate Guard wear (casual). You are never allowed to represent yourself as a Soldier working in a paid military status nor should you portray yourself as a Recruiting and Retention NCO.

Am I authorized to sign any paperwork for the government?

No, RRNCOs and MEPS Guidance Counselors are the only authorized personnel to sign on behalf of the Guard.

What do I get paid and how long does it take to get paid?

You receive \$50.00 for completion of your G-RAP on-line training program, and payment of \$1,000 upon the verified enlistment of a new Non-Prior Service (NPS) or Prior Service (PS) Soldier. A subsequent

\$1,000 payment is made upon shipping to Basic Training for NPS Soldiers and 120 days after enlistment for PS Soldiers. It takes approximately 30-45 days to receive payments once the enlistment has been verified.

How the National Guard Recruiting Assistance Program works:

1. Submit online application.
2. Earn \$50.00 when you complete a 2-hour online training program.
3. Receive \$2,000 for each enlistment that you help join who reports to Basic Training.

Welcome Home

Serving with Honor

The California National Guard has deployed over 20,000 soldiers and airmen in support of the Global War on Terrorism since 9/11. Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Kosovo, Sinai, Guantanamo Bay, Nigeria, Crete, Germany, Qatar, Spain, and Diego Garcia are only a few of the countries our soldiers and airmen have deployed to. While most are deployed as part of their assigned unit, over 500 individuals have volunteered to deployed as backfills for critical vacancies. While it is impossible to name each individual soldier and/or unit deployed we have highlighted some missions below.

ARMY

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| DIVARTY | B/2-185 AR |
| HHC/ DISCOM | Det 1/I/185 AVN |
| JFHQ | TF 2-185 AR Bn |
| KFOR 6B | 217 FI Det |
| (CBHCO/Med | 223 FI Det |
| Det) | 223 INF Reg |
| 1-18 Cav | 223 MI Bn |
| A/5/19 SF | 2/HHSC/223 MI |
| A-5-19 SF | B/223 MI Bn |
| 40 EN BDE | C/223 MI Bn |
| 40 FI Bn | 233 En Det |
| 40 MP Co | HHC/240 SC |
| 2/40 ID | 250 MI Bn |
| HHC 40th CAB | 250 MI HHC |
| HHC/40 CS Bn | B/250 MI Bn |
| HHC/2/40 IN Bde | 251 FI Det |
| B/40 CS Bn | 270 MP Co |
| C/40 CSB | 315 EN |
| 49 MP BDE | 340 CSB |
| 49 MP Bn | HHD/340 CS Bn |
| HHD 49 MP Bn | 349 QM Co |
| 69 PCH | 540th MSB |
| HHD/79 PSC | B/540 CS Bn |
| HHC/115 ASG | B/540 MSB |
| 126 Med Co | D/540 CS Bn |
| (AA) | E/540 MSB |
| 132 EN Bn | 578 EN Bn |
| 133 TC Det | 579 EN Bn |
| 1-140 AVN Bn | A/579 EN Bn |
| HHC-3-140 AV | B/579 EN Bn |
| D/140 AVN Bn | C/579 EN Bn |
| G/140 AVN Bn | 640 DASB |
| HHB/1-143 FA Bn | 640 MI Bn |
| A&C/1-143 FA | B/640 DASB |
| 1-144 FA Bn | 649 MP Co |
| HHB/1-144 FA | Det 649 MP Co |
| F/144 FA Bn | 670 MP Co |
| 145 EN | 756 TC |
| 1-149 AR Bn | 870 MP Co |
| 3-160 IN Bn | B/898 EN Bn |
| 3/1-160 IN BN | 1072 TC Co |
| B/1-160 IN Bn | 1106 AVCRAD |
| C/1-160 IN Bn | 1498 TC Co |
| Det3/B/181 CS | 2632 TC Co |
| 1-184 IN Bn | 2668 TC Co |
| A/1-184 IN Bn | |
| B/1-184 IN Bn | |
| 1-185 AR Bn | |
| 1-185 IN Bn | 129RQW |
| 2-185 AR Bn | 144FW |
| HHC-1-185 IN | 146AW |
| HHC/1-185 AR | 163ARW |
| HHC 2-185 AR Bn | 162CCG |
| B/1-185 IN | |

Air

1-140th AVN

1-140th Aviation returned from a 14 month combat aviation mission in Iraq. The battalion is comprised of soldiers from units throughout the state including the 126th Air Ambulance Company (Mather), 640th Aviation Support Battalion (Long Beach), 1-18th Air Cavalry (Los Alamitos) and the 40th Aviation Brigade (Fresno). While in Iraq the 1-140th Aviation completed more than 9,000 combat flights, 88,000 hours of aircraft maintenance, and 47,500 hours of ground maintenance. (November)

1106th AVCRAD

1106th Aviation Classification and Repair Depot (AVCRAD) returned from a 12 month deployment to Kuwait. The AVCRAD assisted with and processed 1100 aircraft through the Port of Debarkation. The following was completed during the deployment: 3986 work orders, 84,000 hrs of aircraft repairs, 30,000 hours of airframe & blade structural repairs, 36,500 hrs of avionics repairs, 54,000 hrs of component repairs, for a total of over 204,000 man-hours directly supporting the war fighter requirements. Additionally, in coordination with CFLCC, the unit accomplished the first redeployment operation with combined Air and Sea deployments to CONUS from Afghanistan. The AVCRAD changed logistics doctrine by placing Depot support forward into Iraq & Afghanistan reducing response time to hours versus weeks, and dramatically reduced AOG wait time.

1-18th CAV REG

1-18th Cavalry Regiment returned from a 14 month deployment to Guantanamo Bay. While in Guantanamo, the 1-18th Cavalry provided security for the United States Detention Camp holding enemy combatants captured during the Global War on Terrorism. Their missions included mounted and dismounted patrols, access control points, observation posts, and security of the Military Tribunals. (April)

1-184th INF

1-184th Infantry Battalion returned from a 14 month deployment to Baghdad. In addition to the combat mission of clearing the city of insurgents, the unit provided humanitarian assistance and reconstruction in December. During the deployment, the 1-184th Infantry conducted the largest combat operation since the war by President Bush in

WELCOME

BN

...ion returned home from a 12 month combat tour to Iraq. During their tour, ...d on the front lines, performing missions in some of the most dangerous areas ...tion to conducting more than 6800 combat patrols and capturing hundreds ...nit engaged in a significant amount of civic infrastructure improvements, ...nce missions, and was instrumental in supporting successful national elections ...g the Iraqi constitutional referendum in October 2005, task force conducted its ...tion, Operation Clean Sweep. This highly successful operation was recognized ...his 2005 Veterans' Day Address. (January)

KOSOVO - Soldiers from various units of the 40th Infantry Division returned from a 12 month tour of duty in Kosovo.

These units were part of Kosovo Force (KFOR), a NATO-led international force responsible for establishing and maintaining security in Kosovo. The primary mission was to conduct peacekeeping and humanitarian support operations to promote and security within the region. During their time in Kosovo these California Guardsmen participated in over 13,000 security patrols with the Serbian and Montenegrin Armed Forces as well as several other NATO allies. (January)

KOSOVO

250th Military Intelligence Battalion returned from a 12 month deployment to Iraq. The 250th MI Bn provided Human Intelligence, interrogation, counter-intelligence and long range surveillance, support to Multi-National Corps-Iraq and Multi-National Force-Iraq. Soldiers of the Battalion were assigned to collect intelligence in MND-Baghdad; MND-Central South, MND-West, MNB-Northwest and MNB-Northeast. Additionally, supported the intelligence collection mission throughout Iraq; serving in Baghdad, Ar Ramadi, An Najaf, Al Karbala, Ad Dwaniyah, Al Kut, Balad, Tikrit, Mosul, Haditha, Kalsu and Al Hit. The soldiers answered the Corps Commanders intelligence requirements and identified the locations of terrorist, insurgents, foreign fighters, bomb-makers and bomb planters, financiers, etc.

250th MIL INT BN

3-160th Infantry Battalion returned from a 12 month mission in Sinai. Company A, 579th Engineers was attached to the 3-160th. These units were part of the Multi-national Forces and Observation Group (MFO), a NATO-led international force responsible for establishing and maintaining security in Sanai. The primary mission was to support continued peace accords between Egypt and Israel. The unit participated in security and defensive operations during the October 2005 bombings where multinational forces were injured. (January)

3-160th INF BN

HOME HOME



Camp Roberts Open House

Camp Roberts celebrated its 65 years of service to the State and nation with its first annual Open House held Saturday, May 6, on the camp's Athletic Field. The event, which attracted more than 1,100 people, featured exhibits about the camp's various activities and capabilities, as well as exhibits from many of the camp's tenant activities, such as the U.S. Army Satellite Communications Station, the Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site (MATES), and the Regional Training Site-Maintenance (RTS-M). Food and water for the Open House were donated by local business and organizations.



Warrant Officer School Comes to California

The California Army National Guard has been selected to execute a Pilot Reserve Component Non-Resident Warrant Officer Candidate School (WOCS) Phase 2A in TY-06. This course is conducted over five IDT weekends between April and August. Completion of the self-paced 40-hour online Phase 1 is required prior to attending Phase 2A. Completion of Phase 2A is required prior to attending the 2-week ADT Phase 2B at RTI-IN. Warrant Officer Candidates (WOCs) will receive appointment to Warrant Officer 1 after Phase 2B graduation. Six Warrant Officer Candidates are in the first class, Class 06-500 Green Class, "Rising Eagles".



Air Operations

The 128th Quartermaster Air Drop (Airborne) Company conducted one of the largest Airborne Operations in California's history on May 6-7 at Camp Roberts. The 128th recertified the 160th Long Range Reconnaissance Detachment (LRSD), recently redeployed from theater, for Airborne operations. There were over 100 jumpers performing 4 jumps for a total of 400 parachutes.



When they are needed they will be there.....

There was a cry for help for a little girl that needed blood and the 1-143rd Field Artillery was there. SFC Degregorio was quick to act as he coordinated with the Delta Blood Bank to set up a blood drive. 180 soldiers lined up in a day room (bldg. 390) at Camp Roberts for Taylor Ficus, a six year old girl diagnosed with Wilms' cancer. This disease attacks the kidneys and is curable in the majority of affected children. 60 pints of blood were donated!



1114th Transportation Company Deploys

The 1114th Transportation Company mobilized to Fort Bliss Texas enroute to Iraq. They will provide bulk and retail fuel. The 1114th TC will be instrumental in logistically helping built up the infrastructure of Iraq.



40th Engineer Brigade Deploys

40th Engineer Brigade deployed for a one year tour to Iraq. They will be part of the total engineer force supporting Multi-National Force Iraq that is working for the reconstruction of the country. Their work in this effort has two goals. First, is to rebuild the critical infrastructure providing essential utility services such as reliable electric power and clean water. Second, is the delivery of quality facilities for basic services in healthcare, transportation, and education to local communities.



Rough Ready Domestic

Rough & Ready is an annual field exercise sponsored and planned by the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA). This annual exercise is a full-scale, joint civilian-military field drill that will allow Disaster Medical Assistance Teams to coordinate with the California National Guard on medical response to a significant earthquake. The drill included a live patient evacuation on a 146 Airlift Wing C-130 aircraft.

The Air Guard also provided a 30 person Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) to exercise with the civil authorities.

Soldiers for Kids

by SGT Michael Boyer

Soldiers of HHC CP-1/40th IBCT (formerly HHC 3BDE/40th ID (M)-Modesto) and members of the California National Guard's Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) team, in a working partnership with local law enforcement and schools, have participated in joint community service efforts in West Modesto over the past several months.

In an effort to build a strong community and educate young people, Guard members have assisted local schools in a televised "Red Ribbon Week" anti-drug campaign in October, a televised Veteran's Day celebration in November and assisted in the safe storage and distribution of holiday gifts for 250 needy families this December. In coordination with the Modesto Police Department, the California National Guard has assisted in serving the needs of the community and making a positive lasting impression with the local youth.

TSgt Ron Biggs, of the California Air National Guard, is the central valley prevention specialist for the regional DDR program. With the aid of his resources through DDR, and other resources of the Modesto Police and Fire Departments, DDR coordinated events for landing an OH-58 Kiowa helicopter at Franklin Elementary School on "Red Ribbon Week" and later at James Marshall Elementary School for a Veteran's day assembly, much to the delight of hundreds of elementary students, school personnel and their families. Several members of HHC CP-1/40th IBCT were also on hand with HMMWVs to provide security for the landings and meet with the kids.

While the emphasis of the school helicopter landings was to highlight anti-drug presentations to the school children, the timing of events also allowed for education on military life, history and honoring those that serve in the military. LTC Steven Goff, executive officer for HQ 40th IBCT, gave the keynote speech at the Veteran's Day school assembly and honored local Guardsman CPT Raymond Hill of Det-1, HHB 1-487th FA, who recently lost his life in Iraq. When the children and other audience members were asked to stand if they had any family member currently serving in the military, an impressive large number of students, teachers and other guests stood up in unison as Lee Greenwood's "God Bless the U.S.A." played in

the background. Both the Red Ribbon event and the Veteran's Day event featured presentations by the Modesto Police Department, Modesto Fire Department, and American Legion Post #138. Each event was televised on local news channels and featured in the local newspaper.

Most recently, SFC Lou Spinazze and soldiers of Modesto's HHC CP-1/40th IBCT provided secure storage and assisted in the distribution of holiday gifts for 250 underprivileged children who attend local schools near the armory. Working with Theresa Gomes, Modesto City Schools' Operations Manager for James Marshall Elementary School, Soldiers helped coordinate the securing of gifts for the school, as it has suffered numerous burglaries. Civic organizations donated hundreds of gifts of clothes, toys, bikes and



goodies for children (who would not receive anything for Christmas otherwise), and delivered them on December 19th, thanks in part to the National Guard's efforts.

According to James Marshall Elementary School principal, Rolanda Desrosiers-Lewis, "The National Guard presented an impressive demonstration of patriotism and drug prevention at an assembly for all of our students. After the assembly, they made themselves available to talk with students and show them the equipment. We had parents, staff, and students enormously impressed and in awe of their presence and positive role models."

She continued, "The National Guard also provided community support to our students through the Soroptimist Community Christmas Tree. They allowed us to securely store our gifts in their offices. They even assembled gifts for the children. I cannot express enough how grateful I am on behalf of James Marshall parents, students, and staff for their demonstration of positive role models for our students," said Desrosiers-Lewis.

All in all, the kindness and community service efforts made by soldiers of the California Army and Air National Guard can only be measured by the smiles and good memories of the children's lives they've touched.



"Educate your children to self-control, to the habit of holding passion and prejudice and evil tendencies subject to an upright and reasoning will, and you have done much to abolish misery from their future and crimes from society." - Benjamin Franklin

Promotions - Army

Officer Promotions

Colonel

Artero Matthew John

Lieutenant Colonel

Balzano Bruce Charles
Emanuel Frank David
Goldberg Seth Michael
Macdonald Renee Theresa
Mavroleon Judy Magur
Mcelvain Nora Antoinette
Morita Mark Shizuto
Renteria Salvador Paul
Trutanich Anthony John

Major

Lai Edward Kwok Pui
Mendoza John Charles
Smith Kevin Scott
Zimmerman Howard William

Captain

Bacasen Catherine Palayen
Brooks Derrick Dontedushun
Chung John Christian
Cirimele Michael
Cox Darrin Michael
Cronn James Phillip
Huynh Brian Wynn
Lajeunesse Joseph David
Rosenberg Jeffrey Kendall
Sharyer Eric William C
Vig Manju
Younger Martin Rovane

1st Lieutenant

Bilvado Robert Steven
Clark Ronald Scott
Dettra Sion Skroder
Wilke Bryan Jay

2nd Lieutenant

Cicchelli Daman Chris
Escaleras Charles Matthew
Ford Rodney L
Mendoza Muriel Peradilla
Rios Christina
Sanchez Jesse
Seely Darryl Stringam
Smeltzer Steven Eric Jr

Warrant Officer Promotions

Warrant Officer 5

Noble Lorie Eames

Warrant Officer 4

Blake Yvette Sabrina
Thomas Brigitte Eugenie

Warrant Officer 3

Martin James Randall
Nolan Gerald Eugene

Warrant Officer 2

Bennion Keith Lindsay
Dougal Nick Curtis
Yap Roger Bacinela

Enlisted Promotions

Sergeant Major

Silliman Dan Edwin

Master Sergeant

Barba Elizabeth
Brown Tony Brent
Degeorge Daniel Michael
Harrell John Alan
Jaffe Toni Lea
Kell Martin Frank
Mahoney Michael Sean
Oliver Thomas Keith
Rasmussen Jerry Allen
Williams Kimberly Danielle

Sergeant First Class

Black William Eugene
Brown Charles Joseph II
Cuyler Daphne Theresa
King Jeffrey Raymond
Martin Victor Lee
Mills Jerry Rodney Jr
Perry Daniel Christopher
Piotter Steven Warren

Staff Sergeant

Backlund Donald Alan
Baker Albert James III
Barnes Allison Tracy
Bonsteel Louis Spencer IV
Bracy Robert Denzil
Brown Kenzy Lee Jr
Burns Joseph Nicholas
Burton L C Jr
Christensen Mannie Neil
Finley Shannon Marie
Jimenezgarcia Adolfo
Kavanaugh Lawrence James
Lee Benjamin Timothy
Molina Alvin Michael Jr
Morales Daniel
Muse Willie Lee
Ochoa Joshua
Padilla Luis Anthony
Paige Mark A
Petersonthompson Christyna
Prado Kinidio Juan
Prieto Bernardo Tan
Ricci Anthony Leone
Rodriguez Juan Carlos
Roff Arnold Jeffery
Sandoval Jose Sr
Sano Spencer Masayoshi
Saucedavaladez Jose Gerardo
Sierra Victor Manuel
Sliwa Chad Raymond
Stack Richard John
Standridge Bruce Owen
Strother Bryan James
Tamayo Joseph Bradley
Vandeveld David Nathaniel
Webb Bob Eugene
West Derek Lee
Young John Ernest

Sergeant

Aburto Orlando Ernesto Jr
Acuna Manuel John
Amezcuca Miguel Perez
Archuleta David Michael
Ashcroft Conrad Alonzo
Ashley Kandas Leigh
Baez Ana Miriam
Bailes Rayman James
Balay Timothy Joseph Flores
Barnes Lori Beth
Barry Joshua Walter
Bendik Stefan Jan
Bliss Milton Howard III
Boyer Michael Vincent
Burnam Kent Garlan
Camarillo Eric Andre
Campos Aaron Tumaneng
Castro Carlos Luis
Castro Thomas Anthony
Cervantes Rene
Chavez Frank Javier
Colindres Bryan
Cooper Dominic Adrian
Cortina Miguel Angel
Crespo Adrian
Davis William Robert
Deas Clarence David
Debruler Todd Anthony
Delpasen Angelo Gonzalez
Deluna Vitaliano Parambita
Demara Oscar
Dena Omar
Derobles Octavio
Dimitruck Christopher
Doyle Ryan Paul
Duque Claro Mateo
Egan Joshua James
Elamparo Marvin Dosono Sr
Escalante Sabrina
Florer Kevin James
Franz Eric Armond
Fugate Gale Dean
Garcia Adan Sanchez
Garcia Gustavo
Garcia Steven Christopher
Garrett Buck
Gillogly Christopher Scott
Gomez Isaac Samuel
Gonzalez Jacinto Jr
Gutierrezgarcia Gabriel
Herron Michele Virginia
Higareda Efrain Ortuno
Hobson Brian James Charles
Hodge Charles Odell
Hoover Ashley Elizabeth
Hotaling Michael William
Howardorozco Jorge Enrique
Hull William James
Hussion Kelly Ann
Johnson David
Johnson Melody
Johnson William Roger
Jones Sean Alphonso
Jones Vernon Fay Jr
Jose Wendell Phillip
Kaake Jessica Lyn
Kaminski Jon
Kimberlin John Robert
Labadie Michael Allen Jr
Layne Charles Anthony
Legler Alfred James
Lemoine Luke Michael
Lewis Charles Michael III
Lewis Chuma Demetrich
Limon Sebastian Salas
Lopez Byron Rene
Louie Loretta
Lozano Richard August II

Magno Gilda Reyes
Malagon Jaime Argueta
Martinez Egbert Rodwell
Martinez Jose Luis
Mego Vangerson Manuel
Mejia Alejandro
Mendez John Martes
Mendoza Rudy Albert
Mercado Anthony Daniel
Moreno Rumualdo Alverto
Moriel Victor
Morris Edward Kenneth
Nacional Georey
Nazareno Carlo Espedido
Nguyen John Dinh
Ochwatt Andrew
Okada Lincoln Mark
Ondricek Bethany Mae
Perez Iajaira
Pierre Oleston Ezekiel
Puhawan Mark Jester
Puthoff Michael Christopher
Quesada Johan Eduardo
Rendon Ernesto Jose Jr
Rinaman Rainikka Ronnish
Risch Anthony Merrill
Robinson Stanley Emmanuel
Rodriguez George Luis
Rosas Alfredo Edgar
Ross Melissa Annette
Sadler Donald Eugene
Saenz Jorge
Salvador Veronica Rosibel
Salvoni Ryan Lloyd
Sanchez Ruben Anthony
Sanders Tia Marie
Sarver John James
Scelso Andrea Marie
Schaefer Aaron Trephly
Schneider Matthew Brian
Schoger Jason Patrick
Seghezzi Johnathan Angelo
Seibert Thomas Paul II
Sena David Donald
Sharp Brian Douglas
Sharp Gregg Ruddle
Sinobago Diana Mejia
Smith Ivory Ricardo
Smith Jajuane Ladarian Sr
Stenson Jude Christopher
Steponovich Drew Patrick
Steuk Ryan Alan
Strawn Alejandro Logana
Sunada Kenneth Bruce
Teodosio Anthony Felix
Terry Daniel Myles
Todd Anthony Louis
Tolmack Troy Brendt
Torralva Ivan
Torres Johnny Joseph Jr
Tresky David William II
Triplett Raymond Leslie
Valencia Christopher
Vasquez Monserrat Jr
Vega JuanCarlos Delgado
Villegas David Jr
Vue Bee
Wade Johnny Bernard
Waldron Ryan Dean
Welch Eugene
Whittenburg Bradley Wayne
Wilkes Joseph Matthew Dwigth
Wimpey James Forrest
Wolke Curt Robert
Woods Yolanda Rose
Worswick Jonathon Theodore
Ybarra Santiago Jose

Specialist

Alexander Jonathan Randel
Almond Christopher Lee
Alop Ferdinand Soriano
Alvarezgomez Elisa
Andrews Clarence Leroy
Arias David Esau
Baer Les Chris
Beauchamp Elizabeth Bradsha
Becerra Juan Alvarado
Bonde Hollie Nicole
Booth Gregory Todd
Brown Eric Lamar
Buenaflor James Regadio
Butler Benjamin Shawn
Byrne Derek Anthony
Byun James Ahrham
Cadena Jose Jr
Camargo Carlos
Campos Greibin Absalon
Camposortiz Manuel Ernesto
Cannon William Christopher
Casilla Ardy Melendez
Castaneda Sandra
Castillo Cheryl Ann
Castro Frank
Castroalcina Leslie Picila
Cayabyab Andrew Zuniga
Chapman Michael Maurice
Chen Jsing Ming
Ching Mark Yunmin
Christman Albert Francis Jr
Clarkson Jeanette Angele
Coddling Christopher Elias
Cork Daniel Brian
Crawford Kaleenia Teairah
Crowell Eddie B
Cruz David
Cull Brian Steven
Davis William Charles
Diaz Alex Cruz
Digby Katy Mae
Dominguez Robert Juarez
Dunn James Alan Jr
Dydell Curtis Lamon
Elliott John Paul
Esparza Cristina Elyse
Estrada Jorge
Estrada Julian
Evans Lee Charles
Figueroa Ervin E
Flores Federico
Fox Ernest III
Freeman Dustin Blaine
Fu Litao
Fuller Eric Alfred
Furr Carl Anthony
Galvan Julian Mark
Garcia Francis Marie
Garcia Iracema Lillian
Garcia Ivan
Garcia Juan Ramon
Garcia Mayra Lorena
Garcia Vantessa Tirza
Garrett Frederick
Gibson Kory Lee
Gitelson Sean Dumas
Gonzales Benjamin Petagara
Gonzales Raymond Anthony Jr
Grillo Rosalie Frances
Guillen Nefftali
Harocontreras Ana Rosa
Hernandez Victor Ray
Houston Byron Cordelle
Jimenez Jose Alberto
Jumpp Laura Ann
Kilborn Richard Dwayne
Kim Elbert Ho
King Lori Lafaun

Knuth Theo Joseph
Kramer Michael Jay
Langlois Eric Matthew
Leos David
Lim Catherine Ines
Lindsey Robert Anthony
Llamas Jose
Lopez Jose Jesus Jr
Loren Joseph Dean
Lozaguzman Juan Jose
Lyons Lugenia Lynn
Mabalot Peterdan Lopez
Macias Erick Elpidio
Macmillan Amber
Mckinney Isaiah Daniel
Meadows Howard Wayne
Medlock Steven Marcel
Mendoza Franchella
Miller Scott William Richar
Morairty Zsa Zsa Akemi
Morales Enrique Ezekiel
Morrow Donnie Dewayne
Mosley Rajai Treavon
Mullen Scott Alan
Murphy Michael D Jr
Naguit Joseph Eric
Nguyen John Hoang Thai
Nunes Shane Joseph
Ortiz Francisco Jr
Pacheco Teodora Enedina Cha
Palmer Keith Lawrence
Patikamanant Prakarn
Paul Nancy Jane
Pena Karla Graciela
Penero Trevor Grant
Perez Jesus Andres
Pesz Shea Michael
Pierce Johnny Warren
Pimentel Peter Richard
Ponce Luis Alberto
Poullath Michael Joseph
Proskauer William
Pruitt Lance Edward
Quick David Eugene
Radley Noah Edward
Ragsacsalgado Sahren Lozoll
Ragsdale Jeremy William
Ramirez Jose Angel
Rapaido Brian Buna
Ray Joshua Robert
Reed David Elliot
Reyes Joe Simon
Reynolds Charles Alfred II
Richards Ian Andrew
Rios Nicholas
Roberts Daniel Austin
Ronquillo Amanda Charity
Roper Larry Melton
Sabourin James Douglas
Saenz Albert Jose
Sandoval Jose
Schoetzow Joseph Anthony
Silva Raul Jr
Simpson Laurence Aaron
Smith Jason Peter
Snyder Jurell James
Solis Gregory Vernon
Stoner Scott Alan
Stubblefield Lamar Lee
Sundstrom Lamont
Tan Cyruspaul
Tapia Laura Yvette
Taufa Lafoai Tofilua
Teague Kristopher Kenneth
Thomas Timothy Charles
Thomas William Howard
Thor Thomas Zia
Tualla Danilo Luson
Tuliao Noly Gandeza
Utu Samasoni

Valenzuela Rene Jr
Valoaga Daniel Temetiu
Vicari Joseph Edward Jr
Villa Victor Manuel
Ward Antoine Burnett
Watt James Michael
Weber Michael Bruce
White Jacob Aaron
Williams William Lewis
Wilson Jansen Sky
Wright Angelea Marie
Yamamoto Fletcher Muneo
Yelton Justin Brent
Zhou Jingjing
Zimardo Daniel David

Private First Class

Adams Ryan Clark
Albattat Muntathir Taha
Aldayhanks Jessica Anne
Alfaro David Emmanuel
Anderson Ryan Lee
Andreotti Steven Joseph
Barrera Salvador Jr
Bernal Mark Christopher
Berry Shaila Monet
Brian David Lee
Cabral John Joseph
Capistrano George Richard
Cedro Rebecca Ninotchka
Chavez Fernando Xavier
Cisneros Miguel Moreno
Copeland Carl Morgan
Cordero Michael Anthony
Cruz Herbert Joey Saroza
Curry Kelly Wells
Cuschieri Trevor Andrew
Davis Gregory Mitchell
Davis Steel Arlen
Diez Henry Quijada
Dumas Broderick Dewayne
Duong Kevin Ngoc Thanh
Espinoza Angel Francisco
Espinoza George
Falch David Alan
Felber Michael Dwayne
Fierro Sophia Victoria

Flores Roberto Samuel
Fuller Thrman
Furnari Justine Leanna
Galloway Patricia Elyse
Garcia Adrian Isaac
Garcia Feliciano
Garcia Juventino Sahagun
Garcia William Peter
Goins Krystal Joyce
Guyse Joshua Rain
Hernandez Jess C Jr
Hernandezvaldez Jose Guadal
Hofmann Brent William
Holmes Kenyon Levelle
Hurtado Aaron Tyler
Imhoof Jason Raymond
Jimenez Amanda Katherine
Johnson Sonya Yvette
Karatsanos Michael Lee Jr
Karnes Sherri Lynn
Kim Sung Kil
Lam James Alexander
Lara Carmen Celenia
Lauppe Christopher William
Lavy Amber Marie
Layug Jessica Ann Beltran
Lee Brandon Scott
Leonard Brandon James
Licano Anthony Alexander
Lopez Isidro II
Lopez Miguel Angel Jr
Luevano Daren Thomas
Luo Yinjie
Macpherson Jillian Cameron
Martinez Ralph Duane
Mast Daniel William
Matthews Mark Anthony
Mchenry Eric Martelle
Mendezcortez Ana Lidia
Metcalf Joseph Francis
Mills Michael Wayne
Moody Nicholas Alexander
Murrell Tommy Lee Jr
Myers Jeffrey Joe
Nguyen David Cao
Nickolaisen Darrel Eric
Obrien Damon Todd
Olah Gregory Thomas

Orozco Martinez Jorge Chris
Ortiz David Jovan
Ovlera Anthony Edward
Owens Keith Bernard
Patterson Major Danny
Penny Aaron Lee
Phillips Alan Anthony
Prak Tin
Puentes Aaron D
Quaco Evan Anthony
Ramirez Morales Saray
Reddick Heather Lynn
Rincon Freddy Phillip
Ritchie Anthony Charles
Rochagonzales Fredy Napoleo
Rodezno Gustavo Adolfo
Rodriguez Alisa Rose
Rodriguez Anthony Christian
Rodriguez Eduardo Flores
Rodriquez Angelica Rose
Roid Jose Ignacio
Romero Frank Perez
Romero Jesse Joseph
Sierra Carrillo Giovanna
Sloan Todd Jacob
Smith Brandon Thomas
Smith Citrina
Soloman Adam Daniel
Stdennis Brian Edward
Street Keith Alan
Strong Heather Megan
Sylvester John Curtis Jr
Taylor Terell Michael
Thomas Mario Jamal
Tram David Peter
Valadez Anthony Joseph
Varela Jose Carlos
Vargas Angela Serna
Vaughn Christopher Lee
Vazquez Puente Jose Maria
Venegas Diego Armando
Williams Tabitha Jean
Woolstenhulme David Isaiah
Ybarro Juan Carlos

Private PV2

Abayomi Korede Kayode

Abel Violet Ruth
Acevedo Lorenzo Jr II
Ahumada Edgar Anthony
Andalon Michael
Andrews Timothy Marl
Angeles Ryan Ricky Cristoba
Araica Byron Ismael
Arceneaux Keilah Samaria
Barboza Anthony William
Beadle Carl Wayne
Bertz John Franklin
Bryson Steven Matthew
Bulahan Thomas Charles
Caldwell Michael Lawrencejr
Canales Robert
Cardenas Daniel
Carranza Kevin Andrew
Cashion James Richard
Cedeno David Cortez
Chacon Raymond Garcia
Cisneros Ricardo Cezar
Cordero Jorge Luis
Davis Matthew Edward
Diaz Erika
Duenas Orencio Alan
Dunn Robert William
Duvall Adam Christopher
Evans Michael Edward Jr
Fletes Maritza Elizabeth
Fox James Richard William
Foxworthy Donald Lee Jr
Francois Myron Joseph
Gabriel Rosalyn Monique
Ginoza Christopher Lee
Gonzales Peter Villanueva
Gonzalez Sanchez Raul Abel
Guerrero Michael Manuel
Harbath Cory Gary
Harris Jennifer Lynn
Hart Robert Neil Jr
Haugen Terrence Bernard
Healy Liam Patrick
Hedger Russell Christian
Hernandez Aaron
Hill Patricia Nicole
Hines Theodore Alexander
Ibal Maria Dejesus
Jackson James Arthur

Jackson Walter Andrew Jr
Jones Roderick Mitchell
Khaliq Joseph Patrick
Khang Maichor
Ko Yuting
Lasko Gregory Michael
Legaspi Farley Pangan
Lewis Michael Nathaniel
Lugo Daniel Peralta
Macias Christopher Jovanni
Main Lucas William Lee
Maldonado Richard Jr
Mcginnis Jesse Charles
Mendes Richard Anthony
Mendoza Monique Marie
Mercado Adrian Puno
Miller Andrew James
Mills Michael Richard Jr
Mitchell Jason Alexander
Momaney Michael Clifford
Morales Jorge Enrique Jr
Newhouse Jason Lawrence
Odonnell Joshua Patrick
Oneil Patricia Ann
Pena Marcelino Enrique
Plamondon Rebecca Ann
Quintanilla Mayra Leonor
Quirozacruz Luis Antonio
Racine Nicole Marie
Ramos Daniel
Rennells James Stephen
Reyes Abel Fernando
Riggs Eric Duane
Roberts Jordan Francis
Rodriguez Elsa Patricia
Rodriguez Maria Jezabel
Romo Salvadore
Rosales Pacheco Pedro Jr
Rotner John Scott
Saese Jacob
Sanchez Gustavo
Sanchezarabia Adrian
Schuchman Eric Michael
Sessions Lindsey Brooke
Shields John Anthony
Silva Bernardo Rodriguez
Sim Reksamey
Smith Daniel Robert

Solis Pedro Luis
Sustaita Felicia Roxanne
Torres Arturo Alberto
Torres Bryce Shwan
Torres Vincent Simon
Vanderpool Andrew Clinton
Varela Abel
Vaught Ryan Jeffrey
Volbert Robert Eugene III
Ward Jonathan Edward Dean
Watson Willy
Weeks Malvin Oliver Jr
Wheeler Christina Rose
Wood Nicolas Martin Michael

Promotions - Air Force

Enlisted Promotions

Senior Airman

Alejandre Lorena
Ledoux Wayne E

Staff Sergeant

Ashby Thaddeus C
Bartoszynski Robert C
Booz Russell J
Buchanan Ronell C
Emery Royal B

Grain Colin R
Horst Jeremy L
Long Logan P
Niotta Justin M
Perez Anthony M
Rangel Frank J
Sivertson James B
Solorio Jose G
Trujillo Andres Jr

Tech Sergeant

Boone Scott H
Carillo Ruben
Davidson Nicol L

Ferguson Darryl
Fields Randy L
Greer Charles R
Hocut Frank S
Jones Derek A
Jordan Jeanette R
Modlin Julie D
Reuter Joseph J
Rios Tamu K
Robles Guadalupe B
Ruiz Jr Richard

Air National Guard promotion requirements

| To Grade of: | Time-in-Grade (Years)† | | Required Professional Military Education for Promotion‡ |
|------------------|------------------------|-----------|---|
| | Position | Mandatory | |
| First Lieutenant | 2 | 38 months | |
| Captain | 2 | 3 | |
| Major | 4 | 7 | Squadron Officer School (or equivalent) |
| Lt Colonel | 4 | 7 | Intermediate Service School (Air Command & Staff College, Armed Forces Staff College, etc.) |
| Colonel | 3 | N/A | Senior Service School (Air War College, National War College, ICAF, etc.) |

| | A | B | C | D | E | F |
|---------|---|--|--------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| R U L E | At Time of Recommendation For Promotion To (Note 7) | Required PAFSC (Note 1) | TIS of at Least (Note 2) | TIG of at Least (Notes 3 and 4) | Must Have Satisfactorily Completed the Following PME Requirements (Note 5) | On the Effective Date of Promotion Met The Following Retainability Requirements For Service in the ANG (Note 6) |
| 1 | E-2 (AMN) (Note 4) | 3-skill level | 6 months | 6 months (Note 4) BMT | None | None |
| 2 | E-3 (A1C) (Note 4) | 3-skill level | 6 months | 6 months (Note 4) | None | None |
| 3 | E-4 (SrA) | 3-skill level | 6 months (Note 4) | 6 months | None | None |
| 4 | E-5 (SSgt) | 5-skill level (or 3 level when no level exists in the AFS) | 48 months (4 years) | 24 months | Mandatory: Airman Leadership School by correspondence or in residence. (The NCO Preparatory Course or NCO Leadership School meets this PME requirement | None |
| 5 | E-6 (TSgt) | 7-skill level | 72 months (6 years) | 24 months | None | None |
| 6 | E-7 (MSgt) | 7-skill level | 108 months (9 years) | 24 months | Mandatory: In residence NCO Academy or by ECI Course 6 | AGR—24 months All others 12 months |
| 7 | E-8 (SMSgt) | 7-skill level | 156 months (13 years) | 24 months | Mandatory: in residence | 24 months |
| 8 | E-9 (CMSgt) | 9-skill level | 204 months (17 years) | 24 months | Sr NCOA or by ECI Course 5 or 8 | 24 months |

Pandemic Flu

A Guide for Servicemembers and Families

PANDEMIC FLU – WE ALL PLAY A ROLE IN FIGHTING THIS WAR!

While the federal, state and local governments are working hard to implement plans for responding to pandemic influenza, there are some steps that everyone can take that are necessary to protect you and your family.

PREPARE

There are many simple things you can do to prepare for pandemic influenza.

- Plan for the possibility that usual services may be disrupted. These could include medical services, banks, stores, restaurants, government offices, grocery stores, schools, daycare and post offices.
- Think about how you can rely less on transportation during a pandemic. Consider other ways to get to work, or, if you can, work from home.
- Find support systems—people who are thinking about the same issues you are thinking about. Share ideas.
- Prepare backup plans for taking care of loved ones who are far away.
- Consider how to care for people with special needs in case the services they rely on are not available.

- Stock a supply of water and food. During a pandemic you may not be able to get to a store. Even if you can get to a store, it may be out of supplies. Public waterworks services may also be interrupted. Stocking supplies can be useful in other types of emergencies, such as power outages and disasters.

Store foods that:

- are nonperishable (will keep for a long time) and don't require refrigeration.
- are easy to prepare in case you are unable to cook.
- require little or no water, so you can conserve water for drinking.

SIMPLE WAYS TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF GERMS

- Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze.
- Put used tissues in a wastebasket and empty it often.
- Cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve if you don't have a tissue.
- Clean your hands after coughing or sneezing. Use soap and water or an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Try not to touch your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs often spread this way.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too. Keeping at least three feet from those with flu can reduce your risk.
- If you get the flu, stay home from work, school, and social gatherings. This can help prevent others from catching your illness.

KNOWING THE FACTS IS THE BEST PREPARATION

Identify sources you can count on for reliable information. If a pandemic occurs, having accurate and reliable information will be critical.

Visit www.pandemicflu.gov for general information on pandemic flu and deploymentlink.osd.mil for information specific to service members and their families. Service members and their families who have concerns about pandemic influenza can get additional information by calling, toll-free, 1-800-497-6261.

Another source for information on pandemic influenza is the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Hotline at: 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636). This line is available in English and Spanish, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

TTY: 1-888-232-6348. Questions can be e-mailed to cdcinfo@cdc.gov.

Grizzly Newsletter

is published by the Directorate of Communications,
California National Guard, 9800 Goethe Road, Sacramento, CA 95827.

Views and opinions expressed in this publication are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army, the Department of the Air Force, or the California State Military Department.

Grizzly Newsletter is an official publication authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1 and AFI 35-101.

Grizzly Newsletter welcomes manuscripts, photographs, and feedback.

All such items should be sent to: Editor, *Grizzly Newsletter*, California National Guard Directorate of Communications, 9800 Goethe Road, Sacramento, CA 95827. FAX: (916) 854-3630 or e-mail comments to: mirtha.villarreal@us.army.mil

Grizzly Newsletter

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